



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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14 July 1994

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Burundi

Opposition, Pro-Government Parties Sign Agreements

EA1307221094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Opposition parties and pro-government parties yesterday signed agreements that had already been reached, such as the Kigobe-Kajaga agreement, an agreement on internal administration, an agreement on the question of foreign relations, and on other issues. Our colleague (Madeleine Babonangenda), who was present, reports:

[(Babonangenda)] They began with the Kigobe-Kajaga agreement. The talks, which have been going on and are still in progress, have resulted so far in an understanding on the contents of the agreements. Discussion also continued on the formation of the government and the Burundian social pact. Among the papers signed was one on the views of the government concerning the 6 April summit. That summit brought together east and central African countries at Dar es Salaam, and sought to study the situation in Burundi and Rwanda. [passage omitted]

Having studied the communique from the Dar es Salaam summit, which was composed by the pro-government and opposition parties, the government thanked those countries which have helped Burundi when it has faced problems. The government said that, in its search for solutions to national problems, it would always base its actions on the Constitution and the laws of the land, and called on government officials to act accordingly. Referring to the communique issued on 6 July [as heard] by the government and the legally recognized parties, condemning all warmongers and supporting peace and tranquillity, the government reiterated its determination to protect our country's sovereignty, by excluding everyone bent on meddling with our internal affairs, especially politicians and the like. The government called on the parties to support this move, and to persevere in the fight against everyone persisting in attempts to jeopardize peace or remove the elected bodies. The Burundian Government ended by thanking all those continuing to help our country.

Concerning the state media, the participants in the talks made specific decisions, which were outlined in a letter from the prime minister to the minister of communications and the government spokesman. The letter lays down that all legally recognized parties will be allotted 15 minutes of broadcasting time per week. Thus, all legally recognized parties will have access to radio, television, and newspapers. Their programs must be well prepared and peacefully presented. The producers will present their programs to media officials, who are called upon to handle them wisely.

In the context of internal administration, the Front for Democracy in Burundi [Frodebu] and its satellite parties were allotted nine provinces, while seven went to the

opposition parties. Of the 122 communes in our country, 74 were allotted to the Frodebu and its satellite parties, while 48 went to the other parties.

Concerning foreign relations, there are 23 embassies. Of these, nine were allotted to the opposition parties, while 14 went to the Frodebu and its satellite parties.

As we have seen and have been told by participants in the talks, the proceedings are progressing in an atmosphere of understanding. Everyone is trying to restore peace to Burundi.

Further on Clashes in Northern Province

EA1307181094 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 12 July 94

[Text] A climate of instability has been prevailing in the commune of Muhanga, Kayanza Province. The provincial authorities have been holding peace meetings with the population. According to the governor of the province, who was interviewed this morning by telephone, the meetings have not produced any results. According to Governor [name indistinct] Surwavuba, the catastrophe occurred again yesterday [passage indistinct].

Rural Commander on Deaths in Matara

EA1307214294 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Excerpts] The peace was disturbed on the evening of 11 July in Matara, Bujumbura rural province. Though investigations have not yet been completed, it is said that seven people have been killed, including the bursar of Buhonga School. The headmaster, however, did not die, contrary to what we reported yesterday. [passage omitted]

The military commander in charge of the Bujumbura, Bubanza, and Cibitoke regions, Colonel Cishahayo, who visited Bujumbura rural province, told our colleague, Alexis Bandyatuyaga, by telephone about the military situation, and what decisions had been taken. He also told us about the soldiers currently deployed in Kamenge.

[Begin recording] [Cishahayo] [passage omitted] We believe we will be able to establish what really happened here. We have brought the soldiers before judiciary officials, to enable the latter to investigate the events as soon as possible. We told Major Niyibizi, who commands the soldiers, to send people to search the area. We are waiting to find out what the results of these searches reveal. We have recalled all the soldiers who were stationed in that venue to tell us what they witnessed, and who committed the crime, so that the culprits are taken to court. We still do not know the extent of progress there, as we only brought them back yesterday. The policemen have yet to give us their findings. [passage omitted]

[Bandyatuyaga] In the Kamenge Zone, since the night of 9 July, there have been unusually large numbers of soldiers deployed in new positions, such as the zonal and party headquarters. The residents of Kamenge are now worried, and many cannot sleep. Some have even started to move out of the area. Could you tell the Kamenge inhabitants about the situation?

[Cishahayo] These are normal patrols. As you know, Kamenge has experienced a lot of problems. We were recently informed that some people who do not normally reside in Kamenge intend to return there, and that strangers have been seen in the area. We thereupon reoccupied the positions, so that what happened before will not happen again. This is a normal thing. The soldiers and the Kamenge people communicate with each other. I do not know what the people are scared of. What I can say is that the soldiers are there to stop the area from reverting to its former state. [end recording]

Rwanda

RPF Advance Continues; Ruhengeri Captured

LD1307194394 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 1800 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Excerpts] In Rwanda the number of refugees is going to rise yet further: There are already hundreds of thousands of them, mainly Hutu, fleeing along the roads. The RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] advance is such that the exodus of civilians will increase, especially in the north of the country, where the RPF has taken an important place, Ruhengeri. Our special correspondents Vincent Maillard and Eric Monnier report from the scene:

[Maillard] [passage omitted] The RPF is being cagey about its objectives, but it is no secret for anyone that Ruhengeri, which they have just taken, opens up the road to Gisenyi, the last town held by the government. The whole of Rwanda will then be under their control, except for the zone held by the French Army.

[Begin RPF Major Charles Kayonga recording, in English with superimposed French translation] I think the French will be bright enough to give up this zone, and that we will be able to continue to pursue our enemies wherever they go—the enemies of the people, the killers. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Troops Head for Gisenyi

AB1407082394 Paris AFP in English 0810 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Goma, Zaire, July 14 (AFP)—The Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] has captured Ruhengeri from government forces and is heading for Gisenyi, seat of the interim government, where gunfire was reported, cabinet ministers said Thursday [14 July].

Augustin Ndirabatswe, planning minister in the Hutu-led interim administration, said the Tutsi-dominated force was within 25 kilometres (15 miles) of the border town of Gisenyi.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Jean de Dieu Habineza reported gunfire around 5:00 a.m. (0300 GMT) in the Gisenyi area, adding the shooting had sparked panic among the civilian population.

RPF Reportedly Shells Crowds

AB1307212694 Paris AFP in French 1949 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Goma (Zaire), 13 Jul (AFP)—The Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] early this afternoon shelled a huge crowd fleeing the city of Ruhengeri (north of Rwanda), toward the northwest of the country, press photographers reported after returning from the region.

The bombardments were located at about 15 km west of Ruhengeri, and soldiers were fleeing with the civilians, the journalists said but were not able to indicate if there were casualties after bombardments.

Earlier, the press officer with Operation Turquoise said the RPF was about 5 km to the southeast of Ruhengeri.

Since 11 July, after the first mortar shells hit the city, the people of Ruhengeri have been fleeing to reach the western part of Rwanda, on the way to Zaire.

According to the Red Cross International Committee, at least 300,000 people are fleeing on the road from Ruhengeri to Gisenyi.

UNHCR: 100,000 Refugees Cross Into Zaire

AU1407103294 Paris AFP in English 1009 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Geneva, July 14 (AFP)—About 100,000 refugees from Rwanda have crossed into Zaire's Goma region since Friday [8 July], said a UNHCR spokesman here Thursday citing Zairean authorities.

Humanitarian organizations including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said hundreds of thousands of displaced people were seeking refuge in northwest Rwanda near Lake Kivu from fighting between the Rwandan Patriotic Front advancing on Gisenyi and government forces which are hold up there.

Twagiramungu's Arrival in Kigali Delayed

AB1307202394 Paris AFP in English 2001 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Report by Bernard Degioanni]

[Text] Kigali, July 13 (AFP)—Rwandan premier-designate Faustin Twagiramungu has delayed his arrival here by 24 hours "for political reasons," official sources here said Wednesday [13 July].

Twagiramungu had been expected to arrive Wednesday for talks on forming a new government but is now due to arrive from Nairobi aboard a UN plane Thursday, the sources said. They did not explain give a specific reason for the delay.

Meanwhile, his main backers here, the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), again called for French troops to leave the country.

The RPF's Paris representative Francois Rutayisire demanded France withdraw all the troops from Rwanda by the end of July.

This was a "public promise" of French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, he told France's France-2 television channel.

French government spokesman Nicolas Sarkozy said Wednesday the French troop withdrawal would "probably be gradual, between July 31 and August 21."

French Defence Minister Francois Leotard said Tuesday 300 of the 2,500 French troops involved in its intervention in Rwanda would start to pull out before July 31.

However he hinted that French troops could stay longer, noting that "the mandate given to France by the United Nations ends on August 21."

Rutayisire said France had a "co-responsibility in the Rwandan tragedy" and was "the least well-placed" to intervene. The rebels have accused France of backing the Hutu-led government in the past.

France's "safety zone" set up in south-western Rwanda must not lead to a "partition of the country," he said.

"The solution does not consist of appealing to the population to take refuge in this zone," he said. The RPF was not fighting the civilian population but militia and political leaders, he added.

Before his subsequently delayed flight to Kigali, Twagiramungu said the Rwandan peace accord signed in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha last year needs a "thorough review" after the recent killings in the country, reports here said Wednesday.

The Arusha accord, agreed last August between the late president Juvenal Habyarimana, the RPF and the moderate Hutu opposition, "will remain the point of reference," Twagiramungu told Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi in Dar es Salaam.

However, after the killing of up to half-a-million people in Rwanda since April, the accord needs "a thorough review to accommodate recent developments," he said.

In Goma, Zaire photographers returning from the area of the government-held town of Ruhengeri in northern Rwanda said rebels had fired on civilians fleeing to the northwest toward Zaire. Army soldiers were among the civilians. The photographers did not say if there were any casualties.

The rebels have been attacking the town since Monday. The Red Cross says 300,000 civilians are fleeing the area.

Fighting between the RPF and government forces in the north has eased, a French Army spokesman said in Goma.

The RPF is having difficulty crossing the river Mukungu while government forces are on the defensive, the spokesman said, adding that thousands of people were still heading for Gisenyi, the headquarters of the temporary Rwandan government, and for Kibuye, where the northern section of the French army is based.

In the south, fighting is continuing around the river M'Panda, 25 kilometers (15 miles) south of Gikongoro, where Operation Turquoise's commando unit is based.

Eritrea

Government Joins International Monetary Fund

EA1207195094 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Summary] Eritrea has become the 199th member of the International Monetary Fund. The official signing ceremony was held at the office of the U.S. secretary of state for foreign affairs on 6 July. Eritrea has also become the 178th member of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the 157th member of the International Development Association.

Somalia

Aidid Speech Commemorates 12 Jul 'Massacre'

EA1307120794 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the Somali National Alliance [SNA] chairman, who is also the United Somali Congress chairman, delivered an extensive speech today at the SNA headquarters on the occasion of the first anniversary of 12 July 1993 when the U.S.-UN Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM] forces unjustly massacred Somali nationals. He was addressing thousands of people who were marking this day of sorrow with demonstrations in Mogadishu. They carried placards displaying the massacre by the U.S.-UNOSOM of Somali nationals including politicians, elders, religious scholars, intellectuals, youth, women and others engaged in working for peace on that day, 12 July 1993. The crowd marched past the scene of the incident. [passage omitted]

In his speech, Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid first greeted the Somali people, both young and old, wherever they may be. He said: I give you, ladies and gentlemen brothers, my best greetings accompanied by a lot of memories and sorrow which express the aggressive massacre of the Somali people on 12 July 1993 by the U.S.-UNOSOM forces. [passage omitted]

Chairman Aidid said that that year [1993] was different from the others because even though we were massacred and provoked, we still defeated those who were conscious of their strength and who never realized how our almighty and only Allah was most powerful. The Somali people, in defense of their sovereignty, smashed those who thought that they were strong. Thus, Mr. Aidid described 1993 as a year of victory not only for Somalia but for the whole of the third world since it opened the way for mankind to be vigilant against colonization by other men.

Mr. Aidid said that 87 fighters died in the 12 July 1993 attack and 193 civilians were wounded, though the plan was to massacre more people unjustly at the time. [as heard] [passage omitted]

Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid also said: It was unfortunate that following the fall of Siad Barre's dictatorship and at a time when preparations were under way to live according to our noble religion of Islam and the wishes of our people and our modernized Somali culture, U.S.-UNOSOM contradicted the system they boasted of, that is, they violated in an ugly way both the protection of human rights and democracy. They were slinging false accusations and misleading international public opinion, creating chaos and interfering in Somalia's internal affairs which they are still doing.

Though we tried to improve our relations, Mr. Aidid said, it was yet another surprise that they still followed the advice of those who failed in leading the country. But, thank God we are satisfied that the countries of the world have well understood the cause of our struggle in defending our rights, dignity and nationhood.

The chairman expressed a lot of thanks to those who had contributed to the international community's understanding of the true reality in Somalia. He concluded his speech by saying: Following the time when the U.S.-UNOSOM said that they will do away with the SNA, I said that this was a matter for almighty God. I make it clear in front of you now, thank God that their dream has turned into a lie. [passage omitted]

The chairman called on the Somali people to continue with their struggle so as to reach lasting peace and prosperity, trusting in the almighty and only God.

The names of the 87 martyrs of the U.S.-UNOSOM 12 July attack were then read out and at the end of the ceremony. The chairman exchanged greetings with those present.

Aidid Assures UN Envoy of Cooperation With UNOSOM

EA1407104094 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Excerpt] The leader of Somali National Alliance [SNA] and chairman of the United Somali Congress [USC], combatant Mohamed Farah Aidid, today met the UN special envoy in Somalia, Mr. James Victor Gbeho, who was accompanied by the commander of UN Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM]. In their talks the SNA-USC leader, combatant Mohamed Farah Aidid and his visitors discussed cooperation between the alliance and UNOSOM. They also discussed an incident when bandits attacked and destroyed the telephone and telex installations of a communication center at Afgooye outside Mogadishu. The bandits were intercepted by the Pakistani troops of the UN mission who captured some of them. Combatant Mohamed Farah Aidid assured the UN special envoy and the UNOSOM commander in Somalia that his alliance would continue to fully cooperate with UNOSOM's humanitarian mission in Somalia. [passage omitted]

UN Troops Reportedly Open Fire on Civilians

EA1407102994 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] (Maqan Hussein Iley), 55, died and nine other persons were seriously injured when Pakistani troops stationed at Checkpoint X deliberately opened fire on innocent civilians in that area of Mogadishu. Reports received from health officials at Benadir and Digfer hospitals in Mogadishu indicate that these kinds of oppressive acts against innocent civilians were not uncommon in Mogadishu and that those committing them were violating their humanitarian mission in the country.

The shooting took place this morning at around 0830 at Checkpoint X and was witnessed by our reporter Fatumah Usman Aptidon. She reported that the Pakistani troops opened fire on innocent civilians some of whom were on a lorry and others walking. She described the incident as most unfortunate given the fact that at the moment the Somali people are seriously committed to maintaining peace and consolidating unity among their communities.

Tanzania

Cooperation With Interim Rwandan Government Pledged

EA1307123294 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 0400 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Honorable John Malecela, the prime minister and first vice president, has said that the plans to declare a cease-fire and form an interim government are fundamental principles to ensure that peace prevails in Rwanda.

Hon. Malecela said this during talks with Rwanda's prime minister-elect, Faustin Twagiramungu, who visited him at his residence in Dar es Salaam. He told the prime minister-elect that Tanzania will cooperate with the interim government in Rwanda. The prime minister said many people have died in Rwanda and thousands of

others have fled their country following the war and that the whole world will rejoice if the Rwandan people begin to experience peace. He said the Arusha peace accord contains provisions which can help in the formation of an interim government of Rwanda.

In reply, Mr. Twagiramungu thanked Tanzania for convening the peace talks which culminated in the signing of the peace accord. He said lasting peace will prevail in Rwanda if national unity is achieved in the country.

Twagiramungu on Future Government

EA1207215394 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1700 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Rwanda's Prime Minister-elect, Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu, has said that the government due to be set up in the country would bring together the five political parties, but would not include those who had been involved in committing massacres in the country.

Mr. Twagiramungu was specifically referring to the Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development [MRND] party of late President Juvenal Habyarimana. He accused that party of the massacre of Rwandan civilians. He stated this while addressing correspondents in Dar es Salaam on his way from Belgium to Rwanda via Tanzania and Uganda. He said, however, that not all the members of that party were involved in the killings, but that, before they could be accepted, they had to deny any involvement in and deplore the killings, and take an oath that they had not taken part in committing them.

He also said that an RPF group has begun investigations concerning the massacres in the country, and that all those implicated would be arrested and punished, even if these investigations took years to complete.

Mr. Twagiramungu was in the country to express thanks to Tanzania for its moral and material assistance, and for organizing the signing of the peace accord in Arusha, which he said was still the basis for restoring peace in the country. He expressed his gratitude when he met President Ali Hassan Mwinyi; the prime minister and first vice president, Honorable John Malecela, and the minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Hon. Joseph Rwegasira.

President Mandela 'Doing Very Well' After Surgery

MB1307203994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1913 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Report by Andrew Lefoka]

[Text] Johannesburg July 13 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela was "doing very well" on Wednesday [13 July] evening after undergoing an operation to remove a cataract from his left eye at the Morningside Clinic, Sandton, said clinic spokesman Mr Johan van Reenen. "He is doing very well...he is still sleeping. They (the medical staff) will be waking him up at 10PM to give him medication," Mr Reenen told SAPA at about 9PM.

"The medical staff are totally happy with his condition," Mr Reenen added.

Earlier on, Mr Mandela's ophthalmic surgeon, Dr Percy Amoils, also gave the president a clean bill of health after he underwent routine tests before the successful operation.

But Dr Amoils said the operation was more difficult than expected because of the effects of an eye condition the president picked up during his 18 years as a prisoner on Robben Island. "It was a very difficult operation. Not only does the president have cataracts, but he has severe eye damage which started during his sojourn on Robben Island, where his tear glands were burned out by the alkaline nature of the limestone on the island," Dr Amoils said.

The condition had been diagnosed as kerato conjunctivitis sicca, which dries up the tear glands.

Mr Mandela was wearing an eye patch, Dr Amoils said, adding his right eye would be operated on later.

The president was expected to leave the clinic on Thursday.

Defense Minister on Possible Action Against Israel

MB1407065094 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Defense Minister Joe Modise has promised action against Israel if proof is found that the Mosad Secret Service murdered two people in South Africa to halt the shipment of strategic chemicals to other Middle East governments. In an interview with REUTERS news agency, Mr. Modise said the government would assess every contract signed between this country and Israel. In comments believed by journalists to have signaled an end to South Africa's special relationship with Israel, he compared the Jewish state's policies with apartheid. He said Israel had been South Africa's main partner during the apartheid years.

Further on Modise's Remarks

MB1407102094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0952 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Pretoria July 14 SAPA—Anti-Israel comments by Defence Minister Joe Modise were made "specifically with reference to matters relating to arms sales and arms contracts", Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo said on Thursday [14 July]. Mr Nzo said in Pretoria South Africa enjoyed a good relationship with the Middle East country.

Israeli President Ezer Weizman's attendance at Nelson Mandela's presidential inauguration, the highest level visit of an Israeli leader to South Africa, "reflected on the state of relations between the two countries".

Mr Weizman, furthermore, had met Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the presence of Mr Mandela. "This meeting had been arranged at the specific request of both parties and was an indication of the positive role which they expected Mr Mandela to play in the unfolding Middle East peace process. It is in the context of this even-handed approach that South Africa conducts its relations with the countries of the Middle East," Mr Nzo said in a statement.

REUTERS reported on Wednesday Mr Modise had signalled an end to South Africa's special relationship with Israel. The minister promised action against Israel if proof was provided of police charges that Israel's Mosad secret service murdered two people in South Africa to halt the shipment of strategic chemicals to other Middle East governments.

"We are going to assess every contract...A lot of contracts have been signed between this country and Israel," Mr Modise told REUTERS. Israel was a main partner of this country, the biggest buster of sanctions, including the arms embargo. Politically they were more or less in the same trench...The things the Israelis did to the Palestinians were not very different from what South Africa did to its own inhabitants. The only difference between Israel and South Africa is that it was not in the law books of Israel like it was in this country. But otherwise their policies were very similar."

Police Said Widening Investigation

MB1207105794 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 12 Jul 94 p 1-2

[Article by Norman Chandler]

[Text] South African investigators have flown to Europe in an attempt to solve four baffling deaths linked to shady deals involving the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

Two of the men were bludgeoned to death, another shot and the fourth was found gassed.

WEEKEND STAR, which first published details of the links, reported this week that police were widening their investigation and indicated that "the trail of bodies" stretched across Europe.

Now investigators, whom sources say have passed on their information to Interpol, are following up "certain leads" in some European and other countries.

All the victims are thought to have been linked to materials that can be used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons and the four men are suspected of undertaking shady deals with Middle East governments, including Iraq, reported WEEKEND STAR.

Dockets on other unsolved murders, all unidentified so far, are also being reopened in the hunt for clues as there is a possibility that other people may also have been killed.

The latest developments follow claims of alleged Israeli complicity in at least two of the deaths. It has also been claimed that a compound called red mercury—which can help in the production of nuclear bombs—and another known as Caesium 137 are involved in the mystery.

South Africa and Israel yesterday held the first high-level discussions on the issue between the two governments since a senior police investigator pointed to Israel's Mosad secret service organisation as being responsible for two of the killings.

Israel has responded by making "a total and categorical denial" of any link.

Israeli Embassy officials met Department of Foreign Affairs officials in Pretoria in an atmosphere which, diplomatic sources said, may "place a strain" on South Africa-Israel relations.

Ambassador Alon Liel said in Pretoria: "I want to find out what is behind these persistent attacks (on Israel). The reports are apparently all based on the suspicion of a single police lieutenant-colonel. They continue every week and add nothing new. This worries us. We want to hear what is really behind it all."

The mystery over the deaths deepened yesterday when police spokesman Colonel Eugene Opperman said: "We have instructions that we cannot discuss the investigation in the media."

Apparently the biggest problem facing investigators is South Africa's "special relationship" with Israel, nurtured during the years of sanctions.

The two countries cooperated in areas from agriculture to weapons manufacture, including, it has been claimed—and also denied—in the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

The alleged Israeli link to the murders came from senior SAPS [South African Police Service] investigator Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Landman.

He pointed two weeks ago to the Mosad as possibly being connected to the murders of paint technologist Alan Kidger, whose dismembered body was found in the boot of his luxury car in 1991, and of Wynand van Wyk, who was bludgeoned to death in a Cape Town hotel last year.

Two other men allegedly linked to Kidger and Van Wyk have also died.

They are chemical worker Trevor Carter, who was shot on March 9 this year, and arms dealer Don Juan Lange, whose body was found in his Durban townhouse recently.

Armcor: No Nuclear Collaboration With Israel

MB1407142094 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1100 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] The head of South Africa's arms procurement organization, Armcor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa], says that South Africa and Israel have never collaborated on nuclear weapons. Mr. Tilman de Waal said there had been military cooperation between South Africa and Israel, but this had covered mostly aircraft (?production).

The former president, F.W. de Klerk, announced in March last year that South Africa had made six nuclear bombs, but that he had ordered them destroyed immediately after he came to power in 1989. Mr. de Klerk also denied any outside cooperation on nuclear weapons. There has been frequent media speculation that South Africa and Israel had collaborated on nuclear technology.

Reaffirms Policy on Controlling Weapons

MB1307171494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1630 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Johannesburg July 13 SAPA—Arms manufacturer Armcor argued on Wednesday for the continued existence of the industry in South Africa, but also reaffirmed its commitment to control the flow of dangerous weapons in southern Africa and elsewhere. Executive General Manager Tielman de Waal told the Foreign Correspondents' Association in Johannesburg that Armcor would also work in line with the new government's policy and was prepared to assist in the development of regional security.

"Advancing from the premise that the SA National Defence Force will continue existing, it is logical that such a defence force is better off equipped by its indigenous industry than by relying on foreign suppliers," Mr de Waal said in a speech.

"And if we accept that it is better for us to have our own key capabilities, then we need to find export markets to keep down the unit costs of equipping our defence force."

Mr de Waal told the journalists Armscor had recently initiated a thorough review of its import and export regulations and "we have implemented measures which further underline our commitment to control the flow of weapons in this region and elsewhere".

He said Armscor would pursue a policy of transparency and accountability and it would consult organs of civil society on its contracts. "We will be as completely open as possible within the constraints of government policy and end user attitudes. Furthermore, Armscor will be taking the unprecedented step of consulting organs of civil society about these contracts. We are busy working on the mechanism for this," Mr de Waal said.

SANDF Ordered To Deploy in East Rand Townships

MB1207151394 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1400 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] Parabats [paratroop battalion] from Bloemfontein have been deployed in the violence-plagued areas on the East Rand. The army said they would be patrolling Katorus [Katllehong-Tokoza-Vosloorus]. Troops have already been deployed in Katlehong, Tokoza, and Vosloorus, and the army said if the situation did not improve, more troops might be deployed.

Additional Troops Requested

MB1407081694 Johannesburg SABA in English 0726 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Johannesburg July 14 SABA—More army troops will be deployed in the East Rand townships of Tokoza, Katlehong and Vosloorus, following President Nelson Mandela's ratification of a request by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi earlier this week.

South African National Defence Force [SANDF] Chief Georg Meiring said on Thursday Defence Minister Joe Modise had ordered the SANDF "be employed on the East Rand area for the upholding of law and order in co-operation with the South African Police Service".

Witwatersrand Command spokesman Maj Christo Visser said he could not disclose the number of troops involved, but he added it was a slight increase. There would be sufficient SANDF troops to stabilise the area for normal policing and reconstruction and development projects to continue, he said.

Gen Meiring said troops would have certain routine policing powers. "The duration of this employment is not known at this stage, but the situation will be closely monitored," the SANDF chief said in a statement in Pretoria. "This employment will be discontinued when

so ordered by the minister of defence on request of the minister of safety and security."

APLA Presents List of Members for SANDF Integration

MB1307065994 Johannesburg SABA in English 0116 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Pretoria July 13 SABA—The Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] has confirmed its inclusion in the SA [South African] National Defence Force [SANDF] and has submitted a national role of 6,000 candidates, Chief of the SANDF Gen Georg Meiring announced on Wednesday [13 July].

He said in a statement the integration process would begin on July 18 at De Brug outside Bloemfontein, and senior appointments from APLA ranks were being considered.

APLA was not included as part of the SANDF when the new constitution came into effect on April 27 as it was unable to comply with the statutory requirements in time. Having now met these requirements, APLA and the SANDF had been involved in talks about integration over a number of weeks, Gen Meiring said.

He said a statement detailing the assembly process would be made by APLA "in the very near future" in order to inform its members country-wide what they could expect.

Gen Meiring said a media visit to De Brug would be arranged when the assembly process was "up and running".

Modise Wants To Barter Rooivalks for British Ships

MB1407095694 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In the same interview Mr. Modise said South Africa wanted to reach a counter trade deal in which it would exchange its Rooivalk combat helicopters for naval Corvettes. Mr. Modise said South Africa needed the ships to look after coastal waters and to protect ports. Identifying the Rooivalk as a prime candidate for counter trade, he said Britain was looking for attack helicopters and that the Rooivalk would meet the needs of Britain and many other countries. Armscor has confirmed that the purchase of four naval Corvettes is in the pipeline and that the announcement can be expected early next year.

Meanwhile, Armscor has publicly acknowledged that it helped to arm Iraq during its war with Iran. However, all the deals were stopped when the UN imposed sanctions on Iraq after the invasion of Kuwait. Armscor Chief Executive Tilman de Waal said a newspaper report that South Africa sold 16 billion rands worth of weapons to Iraq was incorrect and that the deals had accounted for

less than one percent of South Africa's total arms sales. He did not disclose the exact amount involved.

Acting Chief of Staff Sipiwe Nyanda Profiled

*MB1207140694 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
10 Jul 94 p 17*

[Article by Sekola Sello]

[Text] Within the next five years Sipiwe Nyanda (44)—nicknamed Gebuza after one of Shaka's generals by his former MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe—Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] colleagues—could be chief of one of the world's most sophisticated military establishments: the South African National Defence Force [SANDF].

It is common talk in military and political circles that when General Georg Meiring, the present commander of the SANDF, retires, he will pass the baton on to recently appointed Lieutenant-General Nyanda, currently acting chief of staff.

Already the number two in the national army of unity, Soweto-born Nyanda is aware of the enormous responsibilities thrust upon him. But he is not fazed by this.

Confidence is the hallmark of this 1.8 metre giant from Dube. It was his self-assuredness and courage to take on difficult tasks which saw him make a rapid rise in MK ranks.

"Within two years of joining MK I was already entrusted with major military responsibilities," he says.

He commanded the Gebuza Machinery from Swaziland—launching some of the most spectacular operations inside the country.

"Operating from Swaziland, particularly after the signing of the Nkomati Agreement (a non-aggression pact between Mozambique and South Africa) was one of the most difficult moments of the struggle. You needed nerves of steel to survive."

The years 1988 to 1990 were fraught with danger. Infiltrated into the country to prepare for Operation Vula, which aimed at a massive popular uprising, he was under constant threat. With the late Chris Hani, he was the MK leader most wanted by the security forces.

As a young man Nyanda dreamed of being a mathematics lecturer and liberating his country. The first ambition was short circuited when he was expelled from the University of Zululand as a second-year student in 1970.

Six years later Nyanda quit journalism and went into exile.

"In exile we dreamt of returning home with army tanks rumbling down the streets of Johannesburg and garlanded by ululating women. That things did not turn out this way is immaterial. What is important is that we achieved our goal of liberating this country."

Nyanda is aware of the SANDF'S sophisticated nature and the challenge this poses for former guerilla army members.

"We are not averse to acquiring the skills to run such a big company—in fact the biggest company in the country. You simply can't say I am a guerilla and I don't need any training. You must acquire the managerial skills for such a company and know how it's done."

A former infantry and artillery man who received his training in East Germany, Nyanda leads by example. This earned him the respect of many cadres during the armed struggle. He is undertaking courses at military headquarters in Pretoria to upgrade his knowledge.

The appointment of Nyanda and eight other MK soldiers to ranks of generals has reportedly not gone down well in some military circles. It is claimed they lack the qualifications and experience.

These arguments, he counters, are cheap sophistry. "At the conclusion of the Anglo-Boer War and the creation of the Union of South Africa, Boer generals who were essentially guerillas were inducted into the army with their ranks.

"When the National Party came to power in 1948, they took a political decision and selected their men to senior positions in the army. ... We have been well received by the top echelons in the army and this is encouraging even for the integration process. It will make things run smoothly."

A father of five young children (two are his brother Zweli's, who was killed in Mozambique), Nyanda still lives in a four-roomed match-box house in Klipspruit.

Slovo on Allocation of Housing Funds to Provinces

*MB1207174094 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720
GMT 12 Jul 94*

[Text] Pretoria July 12 SAPA—Housing funds of almost R1,349 million [rands] have been allocated to the nine provinces, Minister of Housing Joe Slovo said on Tuesday [12 July]. The allocations, which comprise 50 per cent of funds from the 1994/95 budget and unspent funds from the 1993/94 financial year, were approved by Mr Slovo after consultations with MECs [members of executive councils] for housing from the various provinces on July 8.

The funds were allocated according to criteria identified by the Ministry of Housing and the National Housing Forum, including the number of households in each province, the number of people in the four income groups of the housing subsidy scheme, the total population and number of parliamentary seats and the proportion of households earning less than R3,500 a month.

Mr Slovo said the regional distribution of the remaining housing funds would take account of other criteria as

well. These would include urbanisation trends, economic capacity and the housing backlog. "The remaining amount will be allocated as soon as possible after consultation with the MECs for housing," he said.

The largest allocation is for KwaZulu/Natal, which gets R291,340,163 (about R291m).

Other allocations (with approximate amounts) are:

- Western Cape R163,974,035 (R164m);
- Northern Cape R39,414,999 (R39m);
- Eastern Cape R173,281,223 (R173m);
- North-West R88,873,370 (R89m);
- PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] R271,914,140 (R272m);
- Northern Transvaal R129,511,918 (R130m);
- Eastern Transvaal R89,811,517 (R90m); and,
- Orange Free State R80,767,308 (R81m).

Discusses Housing Policy

MB1307180794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1732 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Report by David Isaacson]

[Text] Pretoria July 13 SAPA—A new national housing plan could be drawn up after National Housing Minister Joe Slovo and PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] Premier Tokyo Sexwale on Wednesday [13 July] agreed to establish a committee to examine merging their two policies. Addressing a joint press conference after meeting in Pretoria, Mr Slovo said the committee would "undertake an urgent assessment of the PWV scheme and the extent to which it can be merged into a new housing policy".

He said the committee's report, in the form of a white paper, would be presented for public discussion in August and would be followed by a housing summit in early October.

"We are opening our minds to developing a new strategy which is going to be incorporated into the white paper," Mr Slovo said.

"As we both indicated at the meeting, both from the point of view of the Housing Ministry and the point of view of the PWV government, there is no policy which is cast in stone...

"I'm absolutely certain we're going to have to learn lessons from it (housing policy implementation) immediately. We're going to assess whether there are any gaps, and I've no doubt that we'll be able to eventually emerge with a common approach."

Their meeting followed media reports of tensions between Mr Sexwale and Mr Slovo over their housing plans.

The PWV premier in May promised 150,000 low-cost houses in the PWV in a year, while Mr Slovo has said 50,000 houses will be built nationally in the same period.

Mr Sexwale and Mr Slovo denied the tensions, saying Wednesday's talks were conducted in a business-like and very positive spirit. "We weren't fighting about anything," Mr Slovo said.

The minister said the government's allocation of housing funds to provinces would proceed under existing guidelines until a new approach was decided.

"As soon as agreement is reached on the new overall housing strategy, the implementation of the projects under the existing allocations could be merged into the new strategy."

Mr Slovo said he and Mr Sexwale had also discussed the unique role of the PWV in the national economy, and the extraordinary contribution it had to make in eliminating the national housing backlog. "We also recognised the importance of ensuring a closer ongoing working relationship."

Asked on differences between the provincial and national plans, Mr Sexwale stressed his scheme depended on funding from the private sector.

He said discussions with possible funders were still continuing.

Mr Sexwale said the committee's work meant his housing plan would be slightly delayed.

PWV MEC [member of the Executive Council] for Housing Dan Mofokeng also attended the meeting.

Minister, Regional Premiers Discuss Power Transfer

MB1207171794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] A special task force says good progress has been made with the transfer of powers to provincial governments and negotiating forums are functioning in most regions. The minister for provincial affairs and constitutional development, Mr. Roelf Meyer, said after talks in Pretoria with premiers and MECs [member of executive councils] that the government was to be asked to transfer transitional legislation to the provinces no later than Friday, so that agreements could be promulgated.

Good progress has also been made with the Reconstruction and Development Program.

Meyer Issues Statement

MB1207202894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1959 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Statement issued by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister R.P. Meyer on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 12 July]

[Text] Minister Roelf Meyer and Deputy Minister Mohammed Vajli Moosa held two meetings today with representatives of provincial governments. The first was

a meeting with the provincial MEC's [members of executive councils] responsible for local government. The second was a meeting of the Premiers' Forum which was attended by eight premiers, Ministers Jay Naidoo and Zola Skweyiya and Deputy Minister Alec Erwin.

The meeting with the local government MEC's received a report from a special task force which had toured all the provinces in order to assess the progress being made with local government transition. The report indicated good progress in most provinces.

Negotiating forums are functioning in most local government areas, progress made in the OFS [Orange Free State] Province is most noteworthy - of the 79 forums established, 60 have already reached agreements on the establishment of transitional local councils and local government co-ordinating committees.

The main obstacle facing provincial governments, is the fact that the power to administer the Local Government Transition Act has not yet been assigned to the provinces. This has thus far prevented premiers from granting recognition to negotiating forums and promulgating agreements reached. The meeting decided to request of central government to assign the Local Government Transition Act to the provinces by not later than 15 July 1994.

The meeting noted that the campaign aimed at implementing the January 1994 agreement on finance, services and service rendering is not being given due attention. A proposal in order to inject new impetus into this campaign will be tabled at the next meeting.

A joint meeting between the MEC's, the minister and his deputy and representatives of the United Municipal Executives (UME) and SANCO [South African National Civics Organization] is to be held in order to discuss the local government transitional process.

The Premiers' Forum was informed by the Public Service Commission on the progress being made with the assignment of further powers to the provinces. There was consensus that provincial powers should be assigned as soon as possible.

The deputy minister of finance reported on the progress being made with the appointment of the financial and fiscal commission.

An interprovincial liaison committee on horse racing and betting is to be established, composed of MEC's dealing with this issue. The possibility of a common national approach towards illegal casinos would inter alia be investigated.

The meeting furthermore discussed the need to establish houses of traditional leaders at the provincial level. Concrete steps towards the establishment of these bodies will be taken and progress in this regard discussed at the next meeting.

Minister Jay Naidoo informed the meeting of his visit to the provinces. Good progress on the establishment of RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] structures was reported nationwide.

The next meeting of the Premiers' Forum is scheduled for 12 August 1994. [Issued] 12 July 1994 Pretoria

Homeland Council Chairman Wingard Interviewed

MB1307135094 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 0525 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Interview with Homeland Council Chairman Johan Wingard and University of Potchefstroom Professor Francois Venter by SABC announcer Eon de Vos on the "Good Morning South Africa" program—live]

[Text] [De Vos] A delegation serving on the Homeland Council recently visited several European countries to research political and constitutional models which could be applied in South Africa. In the studio this morning is Mr. Johan Wingard, chairman of the Homeland Council, and also Professor Francois Venter of the University of Potchefstroom. Good morning and welcome. The aim of this overseas visit was to research other constitutional models. What did you learn?

[Wingard] It was a very interesting visit. We visited Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland, among other countries, and the idea was merely to look at what options were available so that we are not restricted and forced to look at the fossilized system we have always had in South Africa, where a strong central government rules and everything flows from this center. We were there to learn a few lessons, get some ideas, and we really had wonderful experiences. If I may mention an example. In Germany, we visited the Max Planck Institute in Heidelberg. In Bonn, we held talks with various institutions as well as with the German Department of Foreign Affairs. We also looked at how the Germans view their ethnic minority in Russia and what their relationship is with this minority. There are 2-3 million Germans there and their history is quite tragic. We also discussed their handling of the Danish minority in Germany. We are under the impression that any constitutional development should actually be measured against the principle of stability. Will any future development promote stability or will it be counterproductive? In other words, I am mentioning this from a constitutional point of view. From this point of view one should ask if the lives of communities are to be affected, will it promote or hinder stability in those communities. In Belgium there are definite language barriers. There are people speaking Flemish, French—the official language enforced in schools is French, at universities we have only French, and yet there is a corner in the northeast of Wallonia where 64,000 German-speaking Belgians live. What did we see there? These German-speaking Belgians also have their own cultural autonomy, but in their sense the cultural autonomy is closely linked to territorial autonomy. We can discuss it later.

Just one more thing, the big message we received in Belgium is: How will you get three population groups, each with its own culture, to form one nation? This is what I am concerned about. How are we going to get 3 million Afrikaners, the majority of whom did not vote for the ANC, for example, how are we going to get them to enthusiastically support an ANC government? How are we going to get them to enthusiastically support their national symbols? Here we received the answer to this. Do you know what the answer is: They say they are proud to be Belgian because the government allows them to be themselves.

[De Vos] You were involved in drafting the constitution as we have it now. What sort of room is there in the constitution to accommodate these ideas?

[Venter] It is very interesting to note that the Homeland Council is a mechanism created to make provision for people with a certain political approach, to promote the idea of a homeland, but the rest of the constitution makes provision for the promotion of the sort of interests one finds minority groups enjoying internationally. The issue to be addressed is: What is the entity one is confronted with. The Homeland Council does not represent an ethnic group. The homeland idea is not necessarily an ethnic idea. In the international community and in the international debate on minorities and groups, etcetera, one often finds that it deals with suppressed minorities who are overpowered by the majority of the total national population and who are subjected to suppression and exploitation—territorially based groups. This could even be smaller territorial regions, at local government level or cantons, or whatever. Our problem in South Africa is that the group under discussion does not meet any of these criteria. The constitution itself makes provision for fundamental rights, for the protection of language, culture, religion, education, and it also provides for principles according to which the constitution must be refined.

[De Vos] The clause in the constitution providing for suppressed people or territorial groups—if one talks about the homeland idea—now the Homeland Council, the group you represent, actually does not meet any of these two requirements. If one looks at this issue broadly, after the election, the homeland movement is in a weaker position than before the election. With the present system of government is it still really necessary to move to an independent area?

[Wingard] It's a question of survival. It's a question of finding an area over which one can have jurisdiction. It's a question of being governed by one's own people. It's a question of people choosing their own leader, because you know that if one cannot choose your own leaders who will draft suitable laws, then that is another matter. Now I want to come back to what the professor has just said. You know, the impression we got overseas is that

political decisions are taken first and then a legal framework is set up. You do not begin with the legal framework and then force a political decision into that framework, because if you try to do that then you will not make any progress. Now what is so special about the Boer Afrikaners? Why do they want sovereignty or autonomy to determine their own futures? Can I tell you why? Because they are asking for it. That is why. That is sufficient reason. If they ask for it and they are willing to die for it, as many of them are—I am not a politician but I am defining this feeling in the community—then this is a strong reason for a political decision to be taken on the matter because after this political decision has been taken then we can build a legal framework around this, you see. We do not begin with the legal framework. In this case we say that the new South Africa was a political decision where a legal framework was supposed to follow to make it technically workable.

[De Vos] Would you say it was a political decision that had to come about, that it could not wait any longer?

[Wingard] It could not wait, and the Afrikaner situation, as Mr. Mbeki said—they should not make the same mistake the Afrikaners made in 1948, when they excluded the blacks. He does not want to exclude the Afrikaner, who is a permanent minority, and you know that a permanent minority does not have any way, except through Parliament, to bring about change.

[De Vos] Now aside from the experiences you gained abroad, do you have any other practical guidelines? I mean, are we any closer to where this homeland will be and how it will be formed?

[Wingard] Yes, let me say that there are 20 members on this Homeland Council and they are experts. We sit bimonthly for two-day sessions and in between this we have working groups who work through the various programs. Today and tomorrow we have a meeting in Pretoria where all 20 members will meet and where we will receive feedback from the various working groups on issues like citizenship, the homeland, the options facing a homeland, the economic interaction with the rest of South Africa. We are looking at self-determination. What does self-determination mean?

[De Vos] But do you have any indication of where it will be?

[Wingard] Well, we have a lot of options. It depends on certain factors. It depends on whether we are looking for solutions for today or something that will last for 40 years. If we look for something quick, then we do have immediate solutions because today we already have the required percentage in South Africa, accepted by the IEC [Independent Electoral Commission]—not the percentages ...

[De Vos, interrupting] The breakdown of areas.

[Wingard] That's right. We already have this on a map. We can already show you a few areas now. It does not

necessarily have to be one region, but this is a temporary solution. We must still look at 40 years ahead, 50 years ahead. It is here where we must still decide what is practical, what is possible, and what is marketable to our people, to the ANC top structure, and also to the masses.

[De Vos] It seems these are the key words: what is realistic, what is marketable. Time has caught up with us. You said 40 years. We will need a number of years to discuss this issue. Thank you for your participation.

Finance Minister-Designate on Plans for Job

MB1307121094 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
13 Jul 94 p 11

[Interview with Finance Minister-designate Chris Liebenberg by Shaun Johnson and Claire Gebhardt; place and date not given]

[Text] On his relationship with President Mandela

I first met him about three years ago. I was an executive of a reasonably successful financial institution, and I met him in the context of being a businessman. When the issue of the nationalisation of banks arose, our contact became what you could describe as a little more intense. (But) I don't have special relationships with Mr. Mandela, or Mr. de Klerk or Mr. Mbeki or with anybody else.

On his relationship with Derek Keys

I've known Derek for some time, much longer than I've known President Mandela. From even before he joined Gencor [General Mining Union Corporation], I knew him as a significant personality in financial markets whose opinion you value. With Gencor he became a very major client of Nedcor, so it was obvious that we would have contact—also social contact.

On whether he consulted Keys before accepting

Unfortunately there was no time. But I did make it my business to try and find out why he resigned, before I accepted. That was critical. And I've spent time with him and his wife since...it gave me a lot of confidence that it had nothing to do with the position or policy, philosophy, personalities, or departmental relationships. I'm very relaxed as far as that's concerned. I'm a great fan of Derek's.

On whether Keys will advise Liebenberg in future

If I say yes to that, it compromises him. If I do something stupid, people will say why didn't Derek tell him...

On his brief retirement

I retired on the 28th of February this year. Mr. wife says I've had no retirement at all. I had a number of assignments I was busy with, and a number of job offers that I had to work through. I've said no to them. I had a number of directorships, served on a number of committees, and some other social involvement. I was very active.

On whether he expected the Finance job

Never. The first I heard of it was on the Monday evening, when President Mandela telephoned. He didn't tell me what it was about, just wanted to know if he could see me. I had no inkling because I'd been out of South Africa.

On whether his family is relaxed about the appointment

I don't think anybody's relaxed about it. Not the market, not my family, not myself. It's such a major change in our life. We are not high profile people. I never needed to see my face on the financial pages to make my day. In fact I'm embarrassed about some of the things that have been written about me. Against that background, we are uncomfortable now, I must be honest. I suppose I'll have to get used to it. I don't want to bring my private life on to the playing field—not that I've got anything to hide, but I think one needs some areas of privacy.

On what made him say yes to the job

The president's persuasion. That's obvious. Secondly, it's a major challenge. And it's so different from what we've done in the past. It's very exciting...I've said to those that sleep in warm beds and eat three good meals a day: you've got a major responsibility to make a contribution. All those things had an impact on my decision. And finally my wife saying okay, despite the previous promises I'd made to her, well support you.

On not belonging to a political party

If you can make conditions to a president, I suppose that was one of my conditions. I've never belonged to a political party. I really have no desire to do so now. The fact that they were prepared to make the concession was good for the ego, I must tell you. It brings problems, but think it brings me tremendous advantages.

On how the GNU's [government of national unity] financial team is working

Knowing Derek I was not surprised, but still impressed, at the way the whole department—including Jay Naidoo, Alec Erwin, Chris Stals and others, seemed to be walking in one direction. For the first time you had a president, a minister of finance and a government of the Reserve Bank singing not only the same song but the same psalm, the same verse, the same tune—and that must be good for the see if he was still comfortable that I was the right person. [sentence as published] And my economic beliefs, (with which) he was totally at ease.

On whether the RDP [Reconstruction Development Programme] has been depoliticised

There is no doubt that it has been depoliticised—it's really magnificent the way that they have done it. It doesn't matter which party background you have, there are things in the RDP which are just not political—and it's those things you have to address if you want stable government.

On whether he was offered the post before

No, I have never been offered this post before. It's never been discussed with me. Apparently someone once asked an ANC politician at lunch table what Chris Liebenberg would do when he retired and he, in a jocular fashion, said, 'Oh, we must get him to be Minister of Finance.' That's how a mini-rumour started. I was asked about this and I said I had promised my wife I would never go into politics and I had no intention of changing this...

On his reputation for social conscience

As far as social conscience goes I think many people have it in South Africa, I think every concerned person should have it and I don't know that I am more unusual than anybody else. I think all of us are concerned about the disparity in living standards and a lot of other things in this country. My involvement on a wider scale illustrates that I am concerned, like a lot of other people.

On whether he sees a time limit on his job

I didn't discuss it with President Mandela, and no—I'll have to see when I get there. Perhaps it is going to be of very short duration.

On persuading the ANC not to nationalise banks

It's nonsense to say I did it, but I had an input. (The issue has not been raised again) for two years, so as far as I'm concerned it's gone.

On privatisation

I have no doubt we'll be faced with the issue on an ongoing basis. There are definitely two different views. My personal view? You've got to comply with international standards if you want to be a player not only on the political scene, but financially. And those rules are written for you. There are certain things I suppose that will never be privatised, there are others that on the face of it have been privatised successfully elsewhere. But like everything else in life I would imagine that timing is of critical importance.

On maintaining fiscal discipline

I don't know exactly what the procedures are, but I would imagine that one of the jobs of a minister of finance is to continually look at the expenditure, that it's responsible and stays within budgets that are laid down. I have the comfort at this stage that the president, deputy president and other senior Cabinet ministers have all phoned me and said 'Look you've got our full support'. I also have the comfort that in discussing my economic beliefs with President Mandela before I took the post, and with Deputy President de Klerk, there does not seem to be any difference of opinion.

On discussion with Mandela

I discussed with him a whole range of issues. Certain conditions under which I would accept. My strengths and weaknesses—I spent a lot of time discussing my

weaknesses, to see if he was still comfortable that I was the right person. And my economic beliefs, (with which he was) totally at ease.

On his economic beliefs

I said to President Mandela that firstly I was very impressed with what Derek Keys has achieved and I don't see why we should deviate from that route. Secondly, I believe in a market-related economy. We've never had a free market economy in South Africa I certainly believe in the successful completion of the RDP [Reconstruction Development Programme], provided we have fiscal and monetary discipline, which I believe in very strongly. And I said ultimately we have to comply with international standards, and the unwritten international rules regarding governments' finances. That implies lower deficits, and so on.

On whether the RDP is realisable

I have read it cover to cover, but that of course doesn't give you the accounting details. What is said there, very few people can object to. You can object to the way its written, or how practical the timetable is, but until I've time to sit down and work on it in details, it would presumptuous to pass comment.

On whether SA business is guilty of not investing in SA

As an overseas investor you must sit back and say yes, there is the opportunity and capacity for investment here, and yet businessmen have not invested to the extent that is possible. So from that point of view it is a criticism. But I know from a business perspective that businessmen will say why should I go out on a limb and make these fixed investments, hoping that the clients will come? I will make the investment when I get the signals that the clients are there—and that's normally the sound of the till. We've got a lot of spare capacity in this country. So yes, to some extent it is a valid criticism.

On what will unlock internal investment

Two very basic things. One, growth in the economy. Two, confidence in government, in structures, in the economic system. Hopefully this is where I will come in.

Mineral Exploration in Cuba Investigated

MB1307172394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1627
GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Johannesburg July 13 SAPA—Minorco's wholly-owned South American subsidiary, Amsa, is investigating mineral exploration opportunities in Cuba, a spokeswoman said Wednesday [13 July]. The visit by a team of Amsa executives marks the first entry into the communist-run island by Minorco, owned 45.8 per cent by South Africa's Anglo American Corporation and 22.6 per cent by De Beers Centenary.

"They're meeting people, looking at the territory... it (Cuba) is an area that is of interest with the mining industry," she told SAPA by telephone from London.

Cuba's nickel deposits could be of particular interest, she said.

Several Canadian firms have started to exploit nickel and cobalt deposits in Cuba while others are prospecting for gold. Canada is one of few Western countries to have re-entered Cuba as the United States still maintains strict economic and trade embargoes against President Fidel Castro's government.

However, the Cuban economy is close to collapse with gross domestic product plunging by a third since 1989 and the government unable to pay for food imports. Authorities in Havana have reluctantly allowed some foreign enterprises and individuals into the country to garner scarce foreign exchange, particularly in the tourism sector.

Amsa became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minorco recently as Anglo American concentrated its non-African interests under the London-based minerals concern and took on Minorco's African activities.

Commission Appointed on KwaZulu/Natal Capital

MB1307171694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1657 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Durban July 13 SAPA—A three-man commission of inquiry has been appointed by KwaZulu/Natal Premier Dr Frank Mdlalose to look into the issue of an interim capital for the province. SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Wednesday. The commission is to be headed by Mr Justice M T Steyn. The other members are former administrator of Natal Mr Radcliffe Cadman and a retired magistrate, Mr Trevor Blunden.

The commission's mandate is to investigate submissions from various interested parties and to make recommendations to the Executive Council.

ANC Working Committee Discusses Restructuring

MB1307132094 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 13 Jul 94 p 2

[Report by David Greybe]

[Text] Cape Town—The ANC national working committee was discussing how to proceed with the major restructuring of the party without further hurting an already demoralised organisation, ANC sources said yesterday.

An ANC source said the committee spent most of its meeting on Monday discussing the restructuring. In particular, it discussed ways to soften the blow of the

retrenchment of an undecided number of its 1,200-strong full-time staff at party headquarters in Johannesburg.

However, First Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said last night he was confident morale among staff would be revived "once this problem of an uncertain future has been resolved". The ANC's leadership was still in the process of determining its future organisational and staffing needs. Mbeki conceded the party would have to act quickly to restore morale among disillusioned staff. "I can assure you nobody is going to be thrown out on the streets," Mbeki said the precise number of staff to be retrenched depended on the final definition of what the ANC's "future tasks" were.

The source said the committee briefly discussed criticism within the ranks of the tripartite alliance about the lack of consultation surrounding the appointment of Finance Minister-designate Chris Liebenberg. Because of Liebenberg's politically neutral stance, the constitution had to be amended to make the portfolio non-political. To balance the Cabinet, a new portfolio—probably local government—would be created so that the NP [National Party] could make up for the loss of Derek Keys.

The source said the ANC had conceded that its party machinery, which operated out of Shell House, had come to a virtual standstill since the election, mainly because many staff had joined government. However, if the ANC did not act quickly it stood to lose most of what it had built up in terms of organisation since its unbanning.

The source described the ANC's inability to respond to daily political developments as a "glaring hole that has to be filled properly". He cited the ANC's lack of response to NP criticism of its leadership for poor discipline and embarrassing behaviour as a prime example. ANC sources said absenteeism and late arrival at work were increasing at Shell House. Reporters' attempts to reach officials had proved frustrating because either they were unavailable for no apparent reason or did not return calls.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa announced recently that the party would vacate and rent out most of its head office, open secondary headquarters in Cape Town, reorganise its 14 regions into the nine provinces, and retrench part of its full-time work force. The restructuring, approved in principle at an earlier committee meeting, was part of ANC preparations for local government elections next year and intended to ensure its long-term financial viability.

ANC, SACP Differences Signal 'Parting of Ways'

MB1307122994 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 13 Jul 94 p 10

[Article by Patrick Laurence]

[Text] Post-election differences are beginning to emerge in the alliance between Nelson Mandela's African National Congress and its long-standing political consort, the South African Communist Party [SACP].

The controversy surrounding Harry Gwala, a high profile regional ANC leader in KwaZulu-Natal and a well-known stalwart of the SACP, focuses attention on a potentially damaging divergence. Gwala has been suspended from the SACP for six months. The suspension, imposed last month, ends on November 30, unless it is renewed or made permanent by a decision to expel him.

The SACP gives two reasons for the suspension: Gwala's refusal to co-operate in a party investigation into allegations that he ran hit squads against his rivals in the ANC-SACP and his "repeated personal verbal attacks" on the SACP leadership in the Natal Midlands, where he is the ANC's regional chairman. While the SACP stresses that it did not suspend Gwala on the basis of the allegations, it does not exonerate him of those accusations either.

The SACP says of the allegations: "We have not been able to establish satisfactorily the truth of these matters." The ANC leadership in KwaZulu-Natal has taken a different—and in some respects—opposing view on the Gwala controversy. Declaring that Gwala was suspended from the SACP for "breaching SACP internal party discipline", an ANC statement says: "The ANC...reaffirms that Mr Gwala remains its chief whip (in the provincial legislature) and the chairperson of the ANC Natal Midlands."

The targets of Gwala's bitter personal attacks, as well the intended victims of his alleged hit squads activities, include ANC as well as SACP members. Two of his alleged victims, Blade Nzimande and Ben Martins, are dual members of the ANC and the SACP. Another, Jacob Zuma, is an ANC member who has relinquished his membership of the SACP. Zuma is the ANC's provincial leader in KwaZulu-Natal.

It is puzzling—to put it mildly—that the ANC's KwaZulu-Natal leadership should dismiss the quarrel between the SACP and Gwala as an internal party matter when its provincial leader is alleged to have been earmarked for attack by Gwala. One would expect the ANC to have linked its support for Gwala with a specific dismissal of the allegations, and not simply to have passed them off as an SACP matter, especially as the ANC is known to have co-operated with the SACP in the investigation.

The contrasting stands by the SACP and the ANC on Gwala are but one manifestation of the differences between the two organisations in the Midlands. Gwala, who emphatically denies being involved in conspiracies to undermine and/or eliminate co-leaders in the ANC-SACP alliance, tells of rivalry between the two organisations at branch level in the black townships in Natal Midlands. He recalls an episode a few months ago when he came under fire on a motorway near Mooi River. "We

were attacked by anti-communists," he states, seemingly enjoying the irony that he—a suspended member of the SACP—was fired at because of his community convictions. He adds: "Comrades who have never been fired at have the temerity to say I am organising hit squads against them".

Gwala does not specify who was behind the attack. It is common knowledge, however, that he suspects that it was organised by Paul "Teaspoon" Mkhize, the then ANC chairman in the nearby township of Wembezi. Mkhize—who has himself since been suspended—is on record as saying that Gwala, his superior in the ANC hierarchy, is not welcome in Wembezi.

Gwala goes on to recount SACP-ANC rivalries in another Natal Midlands township, Mphophomeni. He blames "immature" communists, who dubbed themselves "Joe Slovo's communists", for the strife there. He charges that, with the exception of the assassinated former SACP general secretary, Chris Hani, the SACP national leadership has not helped him deal with the strife. "They were conspicuous by their absence," he remarks acidly.

Jeremy Cronin, the SACP's national spokesman, does not contest Gwala's account of the rivalries in the townships under his control. But he strongly rejects Gwala's complaint that he has been left to cope with internecine disputes on his own. On the contrary, Cronin states, the present SACP general secretary, Charles Nqakula, has visited the Natal Midlands three times in recent months in a bid to resolve the problems there, only to be "insulted by Gwala".

But strangely, Gwala, a self-confessed Stalinist, and Cronin, a reformist who espouses democratic socialism, agree on two of the central causes of the difficulties between the ANC and the SACP:

- The inclination of some ANC chairmen—Mkhize is cited as an example—to resent the establishment in "their areas" of SACP branches, mainly because the SACP, as an independent organisation, is not subject to their control.

- The tendency of ANC members who fail to secure leadership positions within the ANC to join the SACP or the local civic organisations and to use them to cut their successful rivals in the ANC down to size.

The question that arises from the in-fighting in the Natal Midlands is whether it is due to the peculiarities of Gwala's leadership or whether it is a portend of greater troubles to come; a sign of the fundamental contradiction in the partnership between bourgeois nationalists and class conscious socialist. To those who anticipate a major fallout, however, there is a swift rejoinder: the alliance, like a mature marriage, has survived past disputes and differences.

But, to compound the situation, there is a new factor in the equation: the struggle against apartheid has been won

and the imperatives for unity between nationalists and communists are less powerful. No less a person than Nelson Mandela has acknowledged that there is likely to be an eventual parting of the ways in the post-apartheid era.

Agreement on a programme of reconstruction and development may have deferred the separation. It has not necessarily prevented it. Agreement on ends does not imply accord on means. The discrete approaches to the challenge of providing housing for the poor between Housing Minister Joe Slovo and PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] premier Tokyo Sexwale are proof of that.

South African Press Review for 14 Jul

MB1407122994

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Country's Euphoria Begins To 'Wear Thin'—The euphoria in South Africa is "beginning to wear thin," predicts the page-6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 12 July. "Minister of Justice Dullah Omar's insistence on a Truth Commission with a definition of atrocities that excludes ANC perpetrators, minister of Safety and Security Sidney Mufamadi's Poor handling of the Shell House shootings that may result in a select committee inquiry into whether he misled Parliament, the creation by Minister of Public Service and Administration Dr Zola Skweyiya of thousands of new posts in the public service to be filled by Blacks, and the row (since denied but clearly taking place) between national Minister of Housing Joe Slovo and PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] Premier Tokyo Sexwale have caused misgivings. And Finance Minister Derek Keys's resignation and the poor way in which it was handled have added to the anxieties that are beginning to surface."

De Klerk 'Remarkably Subdued'—"Vice-President de Klerk is remarkably subdued as the leader of the second biggest party and one that still hopes to make a major impact in local elections," remarks the page-6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 13 July. "He carries the flag of investment overseas, but at home has not had much to do in his role as vice-president. He continues to negotiate with President Mandela behind the scenes on issues like which portfolio will be given to the NP [National Party] since Finance Minister Derek Keys's decision to resign and the appointment of a non-political successor. But the vice-president's role has very little real power, it seems, and he is unable to project an own-man image that is essential in his other role as leader of the National Party."

THE STAR

Deteriorating Health Services—The health services situation "is deteriorating," warns a page-14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 14 July. "Ironically, it appears to be the new health policy—with its admirable free-care element for children under six and pregnant women—that is bringing matters to a head. But it would be unreasonable to blame the policy; rather, a shortfall in the health budget, cumbersome bureaucratic procedures and the legacies of apartheid medicine are at the heart of the problem." The indications are that the new regional administration "has not yet faced up to those difficulties concerning financing and bureaucracy." "The answer lies in the setting of priorities; otherwise the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] could become a monster. Already it is accepted that equality in education will take a number of years to achieve. Ambitious housing projects will have to be pared. Now it's the turn of the health authorities to go back to the drawing board."

BUSINESS DAY

Privatization To Counter Transition Expense—"Rumblings of discontent about job security in the upper reaches of the public service are just the latest indication that the political transition is going to be a very expensive operation," notes Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 14 July in a page-6 editorial. "Just getting the new government and the nine regional administrations in place will cost millions, and still to come is the local government transition, and more elections. Not to mention the new army, the forums and the committees, such as the one thinking up names for dams and airports." BUSINESS DAY proposes privatization as a way of countering the expense of transition. "Privatisation has simply not been on the ANC's agenda, for obvious ideological reasons: not long ago it was promising the opposite—to nationalise the 'heights of the economy' and break down conglomerates." But the government should not "turn its back on the undoubted benefits of placing some of its service functions in private hands. The least it should do is look at the options, especially where the transfer of jobs can be part of a profitable deal."

SOWETAN

Housing Impatience—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 14 July in a page-8 editorial notes that Housing Minister Joe Slovo has released 1.3 billion rand to the provinces to launch the government's housing scheme, "proving that the mass delivery of houses will start in earnest within months, comes at a time when most people believed that this Government was about to behave like past regimes. The problem for the incumbent administration is worsened by high expectations from people who are getting impatient."

Angola

UN Envoy Beye Visits Luanda, Meets With dos Santos

Foreign Minister on Mediator's Role

MB1307154694 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye arrived in Luanda today after being in Zaire for a short time.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura said the diplomatic efforts being made over the past few days do not mean a replacement of the current mediator. Venancio de Moura said the only mediator accepted by the Angolan Government is Alioune Blondin Beye and the others should just assist him in the efforts to achieve peace.

[Begin de Moura recording] We believe that one should not make statements which confuse public opinion or lead to ideas there are new mediators. Our position is that other people should assist in making efforts to achieve peace in our country within the approved framework. All the efforts being made by entities or governments should only aim at reinforcing the role of the mediator.

The Angolan conflict should be discussed within the legal framework, an approved framework. We should not make statements which are distant from this framework, that is why we have been saying that all the efforts and movements currently underway should solely support the government and the efforts of the mediator and the troika of observers to avoid delaying the conclusion of the Lusaka talks. [end recording]

Beye Says Peace Deal Imminent

MB1307172994 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 13 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] United Nations Special Representative in Angola Alioune Blondin Beye is once again making optimistic noises about a peace deal to end the civil war between the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] government and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels. The conflict has been escalating, the human suffering is indescribable, and the talks in Lusaka have dragged on for more than eight months with no sign of agreement. Blondin Beye now suggests an end is in sight, but the people of Angola have heard similar things before. From Luanda, Chris Simpson reports:

The United Nations special envoy in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, now says the mediators in the Angolan conflict have gone 95 percent of the way to a full settlement, but the pessimists will still argue that the 5

percent missing leads considerable cause for concern. The past fortnight has seen a series of new diplomatic initiatives on Angola with Zaire, South Africa, and Zambia, all in different ways offering Mr. Beye their support, but hints for an imminent accord at the peace talks in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, still are premature.

The Angolan Government and UNITA are still discussing the modalities of national reconciliation, how to frame a new Angola in time of peace. Amongst the issue still outstanding is the governorship of the Province of Huambo. UNITA says there can be no peace if it is not given the part of the country it considers its heartland. The government has made it clear Huambo is not negotiable and has warned against possible modifications of the existing peace package at Lusaka. Alioune Blondin Beye has denied reports from the Zambian capital that the Zambian Government has come up with a series of compromise options on Huambo, stressing that Zambia is working in tandem with the UN. Away from the negotiating table, both sides continue to accuse the other of obstructing the peace process and looking for fresh military advantages.

Beye Denies Zambia Made Proposal

MB1307200894 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Republic, today met with Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola and mediator at the peace talks between the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. The 30-minute meeting, which took place at the Futungo de Belas Palace, centered on the peace process in Angola.

Alioune Blondin Beye came from Kinshasa where he was received yesterday by Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, Jonas Savimbi's friend. Alioune Blondin Beye said that he conveyed to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos the results of the meeting he held with Mobutu Sese Seko.

At the end of the audience the representative of the UN secretary general in Angola categorically said that there was no proposal from the Zambian Government for Huambo's governorship.

[Begin Beye recording] I thank you for your question. It gives me an opportunity to make a clarification. I want to make three observations. In the first observation, I would like to recall that it was at my request that Zambian President Chiluba carried out certain actions among President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Dr. Savimbi. The second observation is that no request was made to the Zambian Government and the Zambian Government too did not make any efforts to present proposals which are outside the framework of the peace talks. The third observation is that I am not aware of a statement from the Zambian Government that it made proposals which are outside the framework of the peace

talks in Lusaka. It is because of all these reasons that I have always wanted—I would not say a total blackout—to work within the framework of less media publicity, because these reports are not always useful for the peace talks. I can assure you that all the efforts I have made with the heads of state the region have always been within the framework of the Lusaka process. [end recording]

In a message to the Angolan people, the representative of the UN secretary general in Angola said that 95 percent of the road to peace has already been traveled. Beye said: What remains is still difficult and that is why there is a need for assistance from the heads of state of the region.

[Begin Beye recording] One year has passed since I became the special representative of the UN secretary general here in Angola. I have always said that the Angolan people must believe in peace and I think I was right to say that, because we have already travelled 95 percent of the road. It is a very difficult situation because it is taking too long, but the 20 years of war were a much more complicated period. I would also like to tell the Angolan people that the 95 percent of the travelled road is very solid. Thus, I would once again like to appeal on the Angolan people to believe in peace, in the success of the peace talks. At the same time, we shall always try to alleviate the suffering of the people. In this context, I am happy to say that humanitarian flights have already resumed. [end recording]

Meanwhile, an official source told Luanda Television today that there is no Zambian proposal on the governorship of Huambo Province. The source said there is a need to view this kind of report with caution.

Negotiators To Resume National Reconciliation Talks

MB1307202994 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Report by correspondent Manuel da Conceicao in Lusaka]

[Text] Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general and mediator at the peace talks between the government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], is already back in Lusaka. Tomorrow the negotiating teams will resume discussions on implementing modalities for national reconciliation.

The parties agree with the mediators' document, but their viewpoints differ. In principle, the issue of UNITA's participation in the government at different levels is not supposed to appear in the Lusaka Protocol. This issue is part of a series of additional documents that the parties will approve. The negotiators call these documents Secret Agreements Between the Government and UNITA. However, UNITA wants its participation in the government at different levels to be part of the Lusaka Accord. In turn, the government says that

UNITA's participation in the government is a fait accompli, but it imposes one condition: The return of its general to the Angolan Armed Forces so that UNITA can participate in the country's government.

Within the framework of national reconciliation, UNITA has asked the government to hand over the bodies of its leaders who died during the Luanda clashes. According to sources close to the peace talks, these are the small differences which still exist between the parties, but they will be overcome.

Meanwhile, Jorge Valentim, spokesman of the UNITA team at the peace talks, said in Lusaka today that the war in Angola has already reached its peak. All kinds of weapons, including the most modern, were used in the war. The time has come for the Angolan people to understand each other.

Jorge Valentim said his party's Political Commission will meet on 25 July, but it will not be to tell the Angolan people that the war will continue until the end of the month.

It is very true that anything can be expected from UNITA.

Valentim on UNITA's Governing Role

MB1407073794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Report by Alves Antonio in Lusaka]

[Text] Talks on the implementation of national reconciliation measures will likely resume in the Zambian capital this morning. This follows a forced two-day break because of UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye's trips to the Republic of Zaire and the Angolan capital.

However, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] representatives to the peace talks have said in Lusaka that there are still certain differences concerning their organization's role at all levels of government. UNITA Information Secretary Jorge Valentim says that, once agreement has been reached, such points must feature in the accord which will eventually be signed in Lusaka.

Speaking to Angolan journalists, Jorge Valentim said that the extension of state administration to all parts of Angolan territory must be done in a spirit of national reconciliation once the eventual accord has come into force.

Meanwhile, there are reports suggesting that UN Special Representative Alioune Blondin Beye could visit Huambo today.

Clashes Reported in Saurimo, Cuanza Sul, Malanje

MB1207164594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Italicized passages recorded]

[Text] The war continues in the country. A total of six people were killed and some others wounded in an attack perpetrated by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] in Molombe ward, city of Saurimo. Our correspondent Dias Staferro reports:

Arms of various calibers including AKM, RPG-7, PKM, 60-mm and 80-mm mortars, were heard at 2350 [2250 GMT], but the offensive strategy of Jonas Savimbi's soldiers was heroically defeated by the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA], National Police, and civilian defense, which by 0100 was already in control of the situation, with the enemy fleeing in disarray. Six civilians were killed and others were wounded following this murderous rage. [end recording]

A total of nine people were killed in Cuanza Sul Province, following a UNITA ambush in the road linking Valguerra to Canjala commune. Our correspondent reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] *Nine people were killed following a UNITA attack in Cuanza Sul Province. The attack, which took place in the road linking Valguerra to Canjala commune, resulted in the total destruction of the vehicle in which they were traveling. Eduardo Chimbele, one of the survivors of the attack, said that before the ambush the bandits had detonated a mine, confirming once more the nature of the damage caused by the UNITA rebels, who have been mining roads.*

The UNITA rebels are still losing ground in Malanje. The government forces are in total control of the city.

[Second unidentified correspondent] *The FAA, National Police, and civilian defense are still steadfastly defending the city of Malange. A well informed source said that five bandits at the service of Jonas Savimbi's organization were killed in Jaca, 17.5 km north of Malanje yesterday. The source also said that the operation was preceded by an intense shelling of government forces positions in that area.*

The situation is worrying in Cuando Cubango Province, where UNITA is attacking Menongue and Cunje.

[Third unidentified correspondent] *The military situation in Cuando Cubango is still worrying. Clashes are continuing in Menongue and Cunje Districts, which are under the control of the government forces. UNITA is carrying out artillery attacks, abducting people and moving its soldiers in the area. Lieutenant General Joao Correia de Sa Miranda, FAA commander in the area, said that UNITA forces are constantly shelling densely populated areas and abducting peasants. The source said that UNITA is moving in the east and north of the*

province, in a 25 to 30 km radius, with groups of six to seven men to try and discover ways of reaching the first FAA defensive lines.

UNITA-FLEC Forces Reportedly Occupy Belize

MB1307184194 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Joint forces from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola and the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave-Armed Forces of Cabinda in Angola have occupied the district capital of Belize in Cabinda Province. Civilians who were able to escape from Belize to the city of Cabinda revealed that the attackers used heavy artillery, allegedly brought in from the Republic of Zaire. From the military viewpoint, the Belize district capital is considered strategically important because it has a runway which makes it possible for the rebels to be supplied by air and carry out attacks on southern Cabinda.

FAA Colonel Denies Report

MB1407073194 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] The war continues throughout the country. Belize, that beautiful town in Cabinda Province, is the scene of fierce clashes.

Meanwhile, the people of Dange-ia-Menha commune in Cuanza Norte Province have their fates in the hands of the devil.

Everything began when war-displaced people were waiting for vehicles to move them from Dange-ia-Menha to the area of Dondo. The local authorities do not know how many people were abducted or where they may be now.

Joint National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]-Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave [FLEC] forces have attacked Cabinda Province's Belize District. Colonel Manuel Paiva, spokesman for the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] in Cabinda Province, says that the joint UNITA-FLEC attack on the district has forced many people to seek refuge in the jungle, while others have fled to the neighboring Republic of the Congo.

[Begin Paiva recording] In other words, the FAA forces in Belize have been engaged in heavy fighting with the joint UNITA-FLEC forces since 10 July. We have also noticed that those joint forces are now concentrating their shelling on the area of Chimbuande. As far as we know, our forces have been involved in fighting in that area since 10 July. It is not true, though, that the enemy has already managed to occupy the district. Thus, though the situation has experienced some changes, our forces are fighting to defend Belize District. [end recording]

Jamba Mineira District in Huila Province and Cubal District in Benguela Province are also facing worrisome situations.

Lesotho

International Commission To Investigate Army

MB1307204694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1932 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Maseru July 13 SAPA—The Lesotho Government on Wednesday [13 July] appointed an independent commission of inquiry from three countries to investigate why its army is in disarray. Prime Minister Ntsu Mokhehle said the commission was established in pursuance of the rule of law and good government.

"The democratic government of Lesotho wants stability, economic development and lasting peace for all Basotho and Lesotho."

The commission comprising army officers from Botswana, South Africa and Zimbabwe will table a report to the prime minister by October 1.

Zimbabwe Denies Plan To Send Troops

MB1407125494 Gaborone Radio Botswana Network in English 1110 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] The Zimbabwean Government has denied that it is to send troops to quell an armed rebellion in Lesotho. The minister of defense, Mr. Moven Mahachi, says they have no intention of doing so. Mr. Mahachi was commenting on a report by the independent FINANCIAL GAZETTE newspaper, which quoted senior government officials yesterday as saying the Zimbabwean Government has sent a team to Lesotho to examine the logistics of deploying such troops. An army official was quoted as saying the team went to Lesotho and came back, but at the moment it is not clear how many soldiers will be needed for the operation, but the source said the decision had been made to send troops to Lesotho.

Mozambique

Renamo Guerrillas in Dombe End Mutiny, Free Hostages

MB1307183194 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Excerpt] About 400 citizens held hostage by the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] men in Dombe, about 300 km from the city of Beira, were freed this afternoon. Renamo guerrillas who were demanding food and money have thus ended their mutiny. The situation has returned to normal. Cease-Fire Commission Chairman Colonel Segala, who arrived in Dombe yesterday, told Radio Mozambique that at about 1230 today helicopters of the UN Operations in Mozambique

evacuated women and children held hostage by Renamo guerrillas to the city of Beira. [passage omitted]

Damaged Bridge Delays Hostage Evacuation

MB1307165494 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 13 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Urgent action has been going on in Mozambique to end the latest mutiny by soldiers fed up with waiting to be demobilized.

Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] troops at an assembly area at Dombe in central Mozambique blocked the main highway to Maputo on Monday [11 July], stopped all traffic, and took hundreds of civilians hostages, demanding to be demobilized immediately. A United Nations official and a Renamo general flew up to the assembly area to sort out the crisis. Well, it seems solved, but there is a new hitch, as our Maputo correspondent Barnaby Philips reports:

[Philips] The Renamo mutineers of Dombe, who are now said to number about 1,000, including hundreds of female and child soldiers, have emerged victorious. The UN peacekeeping mission will start registering them for demobilization tomorrow. The International Organization of Migration, which deals with the movement of demobilized soldiers, will have trucks ready in Dombe by Friday, so that people can be driven back to their home areas. The mood amongst the mutineers improved last night when UN helicopters full of blankets, clothing and shoes arrived on the scene.

UN staff told me that the National Highway is open and the estimated 300 hostages are free to leave, but it seems things are not so simple as an unexpected obstacle has arisen. A 32-ton World Food Program truck packed full of supplies was dispatched from Beira to Dombe yesterday in a bid to meet the soldiers' demands. Close to Dombe, this heavy truck tried to pass over the fragile bridge spanning the Buzi River. The bridge collapsed and the truck is now entangled in its wreckage. World Food Program's representative in Beira (Roves Alrey) told me he had no idea why the truck tried to cross the bridge. According to Mr. (Alrey), local methods are now being employed to remove it. Failing this, the UN will send a train.

The unfortunate result is that the main access road out of Dombe is unusable, making it impossible for most of the hostages to leave. In the words of Mr. (Alrey), politically speaking they are free, logistically speaking they are not.

Western Pressure To Form Unity Government Examined

MB1407100394 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese 14 Jul 94 p 1,2

[Article by Carlos Cardoso]

[Text] (Maputo) There are insistent rumors amid government and diplomatic circles that the United States, United Kingdom, France, and Portugal are considering the possibility of suspending their cooperation with Mozambique should President Joaquim Chissano not agree to negotiate with the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] a preselection understanding on governance—the so-called government of national unity, GNU.

Meanwhile, reports from New York quote UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali as saying that there is a risk that the elections will not go ahead in October as scheduled because of delays in the formation of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces, FADM.

Those Western countries also have another objection: They do not like to see Chissano inaugurating certain recent projects as though they had been the work of the Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo.

There appears to be a deep-seated concern behind that stance—namely, that those governments do not believe that changes in Frelimo's orientation are irreversible. This despite the fact that the Mozambican Government has adhered to a restructuring program that is largely run by the IMF, has gone along with the Bretton Woods institutions, has scrapped food subsidies, introduced drastic social sector cuts, privatized health and education, and moved to liberalize prices.

South African President Nelson Mandela's announced visit to this country next week will help determine the tune of foreign pressure on the Mozambican Government. If the South African head of state shows a clear commitment to a strategic closeness with Mozambique, the likelihood is that pressure on Chissano will subside.

Italy does not agree with this kind of whip diplomacy. One indication of that disagreement is that Piero Rocheta, the Italian official responsible for cooperation affairs, is scheduled to visit the Mozambican capital soon. His role will be to prepare a meeting of the joint commission before, rather than after, October.

The international scramble for influence in Mozambique now has new faces: The South Korean Government is to hand over 50 vehicles to the Mozambican state today.

We have also been told that preparations are under way for Chissano and Renamo leader Dhlakama to meet soon. The agenda of such a meeting would include, among other things, discussions concerning the GNU and the Renamo leader's accusations of alleged census fraud.

An important detail is that the economy appears to be responding rather haughtily to all these political and diplomatic developments—the dollar continues to be worth 6,600 to 6,700 meticals.

CNE Reports 3.2 Million People Registered To Vote

MB1207200594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Excerpts] A total of 3.2 million people have been registered as voters throughout the country. This was revealed by Dr. Brazao Mazula, chairman of the National Elections Commission [CNE], in Maputo today.

Speaking at a news conference, CNE Chairman Dr. Brazao Mazula, said no decision has been made yet as to whether or not emigrants would be allowed to vote. He said the case is still being studied. Mazula said the operations of mobile teams and regulations on broadcast rights, provided for in the electoral law for presidential candidates and political parties, are also being studied.

On possible irregularities in voter registration centers, the CNE chairman admitted that there were some irregularities in some provinces. He gave as an example information provided by the Labor Party denouncing the registration of a minor in Gaza Province. [passage omitted]

CNE Chairman Brazao Mazula said that the situation in the field in terms of anomalies is not as dramatic as some people tend to portray it. He said practically no parties have sent complaints to the CNE. Mazula took the opportunity to condemn some policemen in the city of Maputo who have been demanding voter registration cards from citizens. Dr. Mazula said this behavior by policemen is wrong.

Dr. Mazula also said that a total of 1,553 voter registration teams are already operating in the country. He hoped that all voter registration teams will be operating soon. The CNE chairman said the average daily number of citizens registered by each registration team is rising to 110,000.

He also revealed that the voter registration process will begin in areas under Renamo control in Sofala Province, notably in Maringue, Chiringoma, and Muanza.

Dr. Mazula said the voter registration process faces logistical problems, notably lack of transportation. He said 12 CNE vehicles heading for the provinces of Nampula and Cabo Delgado were detained by Renamo guerrillas in Dombe, Manica Province, over the weekend. The vehicles were carrying (?sardines) for the voter registration teams. Thus, Dr. Mazula called on the people concerned to resolve the situation as soon as possible.

The CNE chairman also said measures are being taken to deal with special cases. He said it is not a question of extending the voter registration period, but defining criteria to involve special cases.

On his recent visit to Cabo Delgado, Dr. Brazao Mazula said he observed inefficient coordination between the

provincial and district elections commissions and the elections administration technical secretariats in the province. He said he left guidelines to correct the situation.

Registration Extended in Special Cases

MB1407065294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Citizens unable to register for the elections by 15 (?August) because of special circumstances will be allowed to do so between 16 and 20 August. This five-day extension is intended only for demobilized soldiers, sick people, and former prisoners who have regained their civil rights [words indistinct].

Zambia

Former President Kaunda Ready To Return to Politics

MB1207174294 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 12 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] After 27 years in power and nearly three years in retirement, you might think Zambia's former President Kenneth Kaunda had had enough of politics. His UNIP [United National Independence Party] Party was soundly defeated by Frederick Chiluba's MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] in the last elections. Thus, with another one coming up in 1996, it seems Dr. Kaunda is getting ready to make a comeback. On the line to Lusaka, Robin White asked John Mukela what the ex-president had been saying.

[Begin recording] [Mukela] What he said was that he was ready to return to active politics if Zambians asked him to do so. He was actually addressing a rally in Zambia's Eastern Province.

[White] But, why should anybody want him back now?

[Mukela] What he seems to be suggesting is that the government of President Chiluba has failed and that people are ready for a comeback from President Kaunda because, according to him, people's needs have not been met and the government, he said, was insensitive to people's needs, and the people in the government were enriching themselves through corrupt practices and drug trafficking.

[White] Do you think this is Kaunda trying to take advantage of President Chiluba's misfortune, with the ministers resigning on him?

[Mukela] Absolutely. I think it is part of President Kaunda's bid to make himself seen as somebody who was, in comparison to President Chiluba, who was more forthright.

[White] Now, he is asking the Zambian people to speak out and say if they want him now. Are there any signs at all that the people do want him?

[Mukela] Well, from the few people whom I have spoken to, you know, there has been mixed reactions, some of them are saying that this is the biggest joke of the year, some of them are saying that probably, you know, there is a need for Kaunda to make an input into the country's political affairs. But the question, I think, is whether he would come back on the UNIP, the United National Independence Party, UNIP ticket. He was president of UNIP, and UNIP, as you know, has been discredited, and whether UNIP can actually make a come back is very doubtful.

[White] So you are saying he might form a new political party on his own?

[Mukela] I am not saying he might form a political party, I am just saying that it is inconceivable that he would come back through UNIP. Whether he is able to form a political party or a different agenda from UNIP is, I think, very doubtful. I think President Kaunda is UNIP himself personified and I don't see him actually forming a new political party. [end recording]

UNIP Reacts to Kaunda Comeback Plans

MB1207192794 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Text] The UNIP [United National Independence Party] leadership says it will only allow former President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda to come back as leader through the poll. UNIP member of Central Committee in charge of youth Affairs Ruben Kaliata told newsmen in Lusaka today that Dr. Kaunda will only be accepted as leader through holding fresh party elections. Speaking at the same function, UNIP Vice Secretary for Publicity Dickson Chikambala said Dr. Kaunda's comeback will only be determined by the people of Zambia. Mr. Chikambala said UNIP leadership does not know through which party Dr. Kaunda will stand for presidential elections. The UNIP leaders were reacting to Dr. Kaunda's statement that he would come back to politics if Zambians asked him to do so.

The government says former President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda is free to return to active politics, but have cautioned him against using unconstitutional means to achieve power. Chief Government Spokesman (Kelly Walobita) said in Lusaka today that government is prepared to take on Dr. Kaunda should he resort to unconstitutional means to unseat the government. Dr. Kaunda is reported to have told a rally at Mpezeni in Chipata over the weekend that he is ready to come out of retirement to help end the economic problems brought about the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government.

Benin

President Soglo Heads Renaissance Party

AB1207145094 Cotonou Office de Radiodiffusion-
Television du Benin Radio in French 0615 GMT 11 Jul 94

[Text] The head of state, Nicephore Soglo, is henceforth chairman of the Benin Renaissance Party. His wife, Rosine, has given up her post as substitute party chairman.

This change in the leadership of the Benin Renaissance Party occurred in the afternoon of 9 July at the Maison du Peuple, Dosso, where the party held a grand rally. The party's information and support meeting for the president that brought together all sections of Zou Province, looked like a congress. It drew a lot of people and mobilized the leaders of the party's district branches in all the subprefectures of Zou Province. The rally provided an opportunity for a critical analysis of the economic and sociopolitical situation of our country and gave the outgoing chairman, Mrs. Soglo, the opportunity to state what should be done during the few months to the elections.

In his acceptance speech, the president said that those who want to support him must henceforth do so under the banner of the Benin Renaissance Party. Meanwhile, the head of state and the party remain open to dialogue with other political groups.

Cote d'Ivoire

Bedie on French Action in Rwanda, CFA Devaluation

LD1207194694 Paris TF-1 Television Network in
French 1800 GMT 12 Jul 94

[Studio interview with President Henri Konan Bedie by Patrick Poivre d'Arvor—live]

[Text] [D'Arvor] Good evening, Henri Konan Bedie. You are the president of Cote d'Ivoire. We have seen troops from Niger and Senegal in Rwanda, but not from Cote d'Ivoire. Are you against Operation Turquoise?

[Bedie] No, not at all. On the contrary we have told the French Government that we approve of its initiative, which is a humanitarian action for the benefit for our brothers and sisters in Rwanda. But, you know, we have already explained that Cote d'Ivoire is not in the habit of sending troops abroad when this is a matter of taking part in, or settling, armed conflicts. This is not the case here: the fact is that we do ourselves have a local conflict on our border, the border between Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia, for which we have had to mobilize our forces, to guarantee the security and peace of the locals and refugees, and the Ivorians.

[D'Arvor] Do you think France has too much of a presence in Africa, that it brings its influence as a former colonial power too much to bear?

[Bedie] I don't think so. I think rather that at the present time we are looking for goodwill from states and governments that might be able to take over from the French action in Rwanda.

[D'Arvor] Among France's first actions very recently aimed at Africa—or against Africa: history will decide—there was the devaluation of the CFA [African Financial Community] franc. Did this devaluation go down well among the people of Cote d'Ivoire first of all, and in Africa in general?

[Bedie] The devaluation, which is now past history, since it happened in January, in the second week of January, 11 January 1994, was received by the people of Cote d'Ivoire very calmly, and with a high awareness of the national interest. It is now past history. What the Ivorians are getting down to now is making the most of their advantages so that they may look the future in the eyes.

[D'Arvor] Let's speak of their advantages. You succeeded Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who was in power for a third of a century: is it easy to assert your personality when you succeed a man who had such a great one?

[Bedie] I think it is not a matter of reinventing the personality of President Houphouet-Boigny. I have taken up my functions as the head of state. I am doing it to the best of my ability, and I think that with the strong team I have around me, we shall only continue, extend, and expand the work started under the presidency of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

[D'Arvor] Thank you, Mr. President.

Guinea

Government Threatens Action Against Liberian Rebels

AB1307210594 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 13 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It seems the Guinea Government has run out of patience, and is on the verge of taking tougher action against incursions from neighboring Liberia. Fighting between factions in Liberia such as the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], and the Lofa Defense Force keeps spilling across the border. Local people have died, and it's all complicated by tribal affiliations in the area that straddles the border, and now the Guinea authorities have had enough. From Conakry, Foday Fofana telexed this report:

After a communique issued after the weekly cabinet meeting, the government said these people are violating

our borders in the Macenta region. We are strongly warning them to desist or face severe penalties. Guinea last year closed its forest region borders of Guekedou and Macenta, following a cross-border raid on Nwalezu by ULIMO troops chasing Lofa Defense Force fighters. Over 30 people were killed in that attack. Last month another group of Liberians, apparently in desperate need of food, killed a Guinean soldier, a vigilante, and several civilians around Koyama, near Zorzor District. That led to the prefect of Macenta recommending that all refugees be evacuated from the border areas to the interior of the country.

The borders of Liberia are so porous that rebels enter Guinea at will, pretending to be genuine refugees. They are as likely to be ULIMO, as NPFL or Lofa Defense fighters, thanks to the close family ties that link the Mandingos and the Lomas of the two countries. When I visited Macenta recently, the atmosphere was tense. I saw the remains of the mayor's house, which had been burned down by angry Mandingos, and a Mandingo dignitary showed me the damage made by grenades thrown at his house. The local authorities, for their part, are doing everything possible to keep these two ethnic groups, who have peacefully coexisted until now, in manageable harmony.

Refugees Threaten 'To Stone' Minister to Death

*AB1207153094 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1400 GMT 11 Jul 94*

[Text] Liberian refugees in neighboring Guinea have threatened to stone to death instable Internal Affairs Minister Samuel Dhokie if he returns to Guinea to seek further support for his so-called Nimba Defense Force.

The Liberian refugees accused the instable NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] nominee of attempting to derail the peace process. Mr. Dhokie is reported to have held several meetings in Guinea soliciting support for a possible attack on the NPFL by his newly-formed Nimba Defense Force. Minister Dhokie has been coming under fierce criticism for what observers call his clandestine plan to thwart the Liberian Peace process.

In one of the latest, [as heard] Nimba County Superintendent Edua Mlen described Mr. Dhokie as an enemy of the people of Nimba County. Superintendent Mlen said the people of Nimba County have suffered a great setback under the late Samuel Doe, and would not support any further division within the NPFL by Samuel Dokhie. He indicated that citizens of Nimba would remain opposed to another war in this country.

Liberia

Taylor Says ECOMOG Scheming To Wage War on NPFL

*AB1307154194 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English
1400 GMT 13 Jul 94*

[Text] The leadership of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] is calling for urgent international effort

to halt the latest wave of provocations by ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] which could plunge the country into another unwanted war.

Former President Charles Gankay Taylor has informed the world community that the Nigerian-led military intervention force of aggression in Liberia is militarily scheming to start another war with the NPFL. Already the ECOMOG High Command has threatened to arrest more NPFL officials in Monrovia following arrest of five others and the illegal seizure of NPFL communication equipment in Monrovia.

The move to arrest NPFL officials was preceded by another flimsy desire from ECOMOG accusing an NPFL soldier of attacking a whole unit of ECOMOG with a bayonet, a scheme in which ECOMOG High Command says one of its soldiers was killed and two others taken away by alleged NPFL soldiers. Sources in ECOMOG-occupied territory in the Kakata area have confirmed the moving of war tanks and heavy artillery in the direction of NPFL positions.

UN Envoy Reportedly Against Nigerian Withdrawal

*AB1307184294 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English 1400
GMT 13 Jul 94*

[Text] Despite numerous calls for the withdrawal of the Nigerian contingent of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] from Liberia for its partial role, UN special envoy to Liberia, Trevor Gordon-Somers, has declared open support for the Nigerians, in contravention of his prerogatives.

Ambassador Gordon-Somers, who admitted in his words that he has heard (?rumors) of the Nigerian involvement in the Liberian crisis by the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia]. [sentence as heard] He argued that the withdrawal of the Nigerians could also prompt the withdrawal of other contributing countries.

Observers view Mr. Gordon-Somers' argument as selfishly motivated, given that should his calculation of the withdrawal of other countries become a reality, after the withdrawal of the Nigerians, the UN will be constrained to review its stay in Liberia. Observers also observe that Gordon-Somers [words indistinct] is that the UN's position could mean the pullout of the UN from Liberia, an action which will, in effect, mean the end of the lucrative job for Ambassador Gordon-Somers, whose assignment to Liberia as special envoy of the UN secretary general, is his last service in the UN before his retirement.

But other analysts (?say) the Liberian crisis has become a big money business for the peacekeepers and top officials, including those in the United Nations. And the withdrawal of Nigeria, the brain behind the military

gimmicks of commercializing the Liberian crisis, would cause the total collapse of their money-making venture in that country.

Nigeria

Effect of Oil Workers' Strike Said 'Spreading'

AB1307205094 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 13 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Excerpts] The struggle in Nigeria to get Chief Moshood Abiola released is going on at more than one level. Oil workers are on strike, and their action is threatening to bring the country to a standstill. There are also legal battles. Chief Abiola appeared in a special court in Abuja last week on three counts of treason connected with his declaration that, under the terms of last year's annulled elections he is the rightful president of Nigeria, and that General Sani Abacha's military regime must go. But Chief Abiola's lawyer has tried to get the proceedings in Abuja, due to reopen tomorrow, declared illegal in vain. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, the strike by petroleum workers has been continuing and the effects have been spreading. Earlier this week its workers were joined by white collar workers in the industry of the Petroleum and National Gas Senior Staff Association, PENGASSAN, the first time ever that they have been involved in such action. On the line to Lagos, Josephone Hazely asked Arthur Onuviran, spokesman of the association, what impact their support for the oil workers' strike was having:

[Begin recording] [Onuviran] The strike has been very effective. We have called out all our members and they have left their duty posts, and we have withdrawn our services. So to that extent it is very effective, because we are the operatives in the oil industry. And if we have withdrawn our services, then it means that there's a problem there.

[Hazely] No all your members, though, because it's mainly those in the south and southwest that have answered the call to strike. Those in Kaduna, and northern places like that have ignored your call generally, haven't they?

[Onuviran] No, not all our members in the north. Some, of course, shall be used. We are not expecting 100 percent cooperation from our members, but we know that some will be blacklegs, and we have taken care of that. So as far as we are concerned, the strike has been very successful. Some of our members in the north have joined. Whatever anybody says, but I am telling you that the strike is very successful.

[Hazely] You say most of your members have taken part all over the country—to that extent you think you are

successful. What effect has the withdrawal of your labor caused on the delivery or refinery of petroleum products?

[Onuviran] Well, some of the refineries are down because our members have withdrawn their services, and so to that extent it means that the crude oil cannot be refined in the refineries and products cannot move out of the refineries. In the terminals, our members have also withdrawn their services. To that extent it means that crude oil sales will be affected, and in fact I am sure you know that the price of crude oil for Bonny Light is going up every day, every hour.

[Hazely] But who suffers, it's not the people in the government who, you are hoping, will resign because of your industrial action, it is the ordinary man and woman in the street who suffers really, isn't it?

[Onuviran] Yes, we shall all suffer, both those in government because we shall make the state ungovernable for them. [sentence as heard]

[Hazely] Now, the minister of labor has invited you for talks. Will you take up his offer, you in the senior staff association of the petroleum industry?

[Onuviran] The director in the Ministry of Labor invited us for talks with that office, with the office of the director in charge of trade union matters. But we see that as an insult to PENGASSAN, a senior staff association being invited to come and discuss with the director in the labor ministry; not even with the minister of petroleum resources, not even with the minister of labor. I think this government is not taking us serious enough. [end recording]

Strikes Termed 'Ill-Advised,' 'Ethnic-Based'

AB1407095494 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English
0900 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Monitored in progress]

[Text] ... strike by the Nigeria Labor Congress, NLC, has been described as ill-advised and politically motivated. The minister of state for education, Alhaji Wada Nas, made the assertion while speaking with newsmen in Abuja. Alhaji Wada Nas said NLC's demand, which bordered on the release of political detainees, had defied reason and logic as it has no bearing to the welfare of Nigerian workers which the NLC was supposed to protect. The minister noted that the decision by NUPENG to go on strike, which the NLC had earlier condemned but now supported, was ethnic-based. Alhaji Wada Nas said it was unfortunate that the NLC which was supposed to assist in bringing to an end persistent goods scarcity in view of (?its) socioeconomic implications to the ordinary man was the one aggravating it.

Meanwhile, the Yobe state branch of the NLC has dissociated itself from the planned strike announced by the NLC's Central Working Committee to begin on the

19th of this month. The statement is contained in a resolution adopted after the state NLC administrative meeting held in Damaturu.

Warri Branch of PENGASSAN Calls Off Strike

AB1407083894 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Members of the Warri branch of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association [PENGASSAN] have called off their industrial action. The chairman of the association, Mr. (Emmanuel Uwega), announced this yesterday at a meeting with the Delta state administrator, Colonel Bassey Asuquo, the management of NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation], and security agents. Mr. (Uwega) called on members of the association to resume work immediately and [words indistinct]. He said the association took the decision because of the assurance received from the state administrator on the safety of the workers. The chairman emphasized the need for continued dialogue to ensure industrial harmony between the association and management of NNPC. [passage omitted]

Federal High Court Strikes Out Abiola Case

AB1307152194 Paris AFP in English 1450 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] Lagos, 13 Jul (AFP)—A federal high court on Wednesday [13 July] struck out a case filed by opposition leader Moshood Abiola challenging the jurisdiction of a special court in Abuja to try him for treason, Abiola's lawyer said. Judge Vincent Eigbedion said that his court had no jurisdiction to hear the case and consequently threw it out, Abiola's lawyer, Gani Fawehinmi, told AFP. Last Monday Fawehinmi filed a motion in the Lagos court challenging the jurisdiction of the Abuja court to try the politician.

Abiola was last charged last week with "treasonable felony" after in mid-June he declared the military government illegitimate and pronounced himself head of state. The millionaire politician, who is widely presumed to have won a 1993 election whose results were shelved by the military, is due to appear before the Abuja court Thursday. Unions in oil and business sectors started strikes last week calling for the politician's release and demanding that the military government hand over power to him. Military ruler General Sani Abacha, who came to power in November, last month set up a constitutional conference to lead the way for a return to democracy but has since suspended it.

Details on Court Decision

AB1307174494 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 13 Jul 94

[Text] The Federal High Court, sitting in Lagos, has struck out an application by Chief Moshood Abiola in respect of his trial in Abuja. Chief Abiola had, in an application filed on his behalf at the Federal High Court,

Lagos, challenged the jurisdiction of the Abuja Federal High Court on the treason charges preferred against him by the Federal Government.

In his ruling today, Mr. Justice Vicent Eigbedion said the Federal High Court, Abuja, had equal and concurrent jurisdiction with other federal high courts in the federation. He explained that, although the offense which Chief Abiola was said to have committed took place in Lagos, the alleged infringement of his fundamental human rights took place in Abuja, and it is within [word indistinct] division. To this end, he said, a high court outside Abuja had no jurisdiction to remedy the infringement. Mr. Justice Eigbedion further stated: By Section 23 of the Constitution, the Federal High Court shall be duly constituted with at least one judge, which had been met by the Abuja High Court. He said that he could, therefore, not be persuaded that a judge could sit in one place and prohibit another judge from proceedings.

Court Rejects Abiola Bail Application

AB1407123294 Paris AFP in English 1222 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Abuja, July 14 (AFP)—An Abuja Federal High Court Thursday [14 July] refused a bail application from opposition leader Moshood Abiola, who is standing trial for treason.

Court Judge Mustapha Mohammed ruled that the court rejected the bail application not because it was brought under the wrong section of the law but because Abiola's lawyer failed to prove he would not jump bail if his application was granted.

North Reportedly Disinterested in Abiola Affair

AB1407092994 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Jul 94

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] In Nigeria, Chief Moshood Abiola is due to appear in court again today in Abuja. Criticism of the military government's decision to put Chief Abiola on trial came from the British Foreign Office yesterday, and the Commonwealth secretary general, Nigerian Emeka Anyaoku, who has just arrived in Abuja has called for a political consensus to stop the country's drift to disaster. Well, Chief Abiola's lawyers had naturally thought to have the trial conducted in Lagos, where the chief has most support. But what do people in other parts of Nigeria, particularly the north, make of the whole Abiola affair? That is the question Emily Kasreel put to Ado Sali Kenkeya, the BBC Hausa Services reporter in Kano.

[Begin recording] [Kenkeya] The question of Abiola having support or no support from the general public is only one: What the general public are saying is that even if you were now to give Abiola this leadership, the quality of 12 June has already been lost on the way. Therefore, the people are not all that interested in having

Abiola to be the president, or whatever he is struggling for, because already the quality or whatever you may call it of 12 June had been lost since the annulment of this election.

[Kasreel] What about the labor umbrella, the Nigeria Labor Congress [NLC]? Now, it has said that it is going to go on strike on 19 July. Do you think that we are going to get a lot of workers going on strike up in the north?

[Kenkeya] I do not think they will go. I had an interview with the state chairman of the NLC, Colonel Comrade Aminu Tafida, yesterday, Wednesday. What he was telling me is that all they had from the national headquarters of the NLC was an invitation dated 8th of this month, inviting them for a national executive council meeting and on the agenda there was this question of the political situation in the country, labor, transport and some other items to be discussed, but what he was saying is that they are yet to receive a letter or a directive from the National Secretariat that they should go on this industrial action, and this meeting is to be held on 19 and 20 [July] in Kaduna.

[Kasreel] From what you are saying, it would appear that the people in the north are thinking very differently from the people in the south. Do you notice that there is a great divergence of feeling, more so than has been in the past for example?

[Kenkeya] You see, a lot of the problems we are facing are more than a political situation in the north. Now, there is no light, there is no water, there is no fuel in the north for almost three years now. Now, how do you expect people just to go doing things blindly? Nobody will care about Abiola. Even if in time he will come to rule this country now, if he will satisfy the yearning and aspiration of the north or of the whole country? What is so special about this one? (I think) we will be ready to follow him, it is not a question of Abiola or something

like that. Abiola now I do not think is an issue within the north. It is no more an issue. [end recording]

Members of Constitutional Conference Resume Sitting

*AB1307174094 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English
1030 GMT 13 Jul 94*

[Text] Members of Constitutional Conference in Nigeria, who have been on a two-week recess, reconvened on Monday [11 July] in Abuja, the capital. Delegates began business yesterday, Tuesday, by opening a debate on the head of state's speech, which was presented during the inauguration of the conference on 27th of last month. VON Correspondent John Elaigu, who covered the proceedings of the conference, filed in this report:

[Begin Elaigu recording] The Nigerian Constitutional Conference Tuesday swang into action by opening debate on the general principles of the conference agenda, and as it reflected in the inaugural address of General Sani Abacha, the head of state. The debate, which attracted contributions from many delegates, touched on a wide range of issues, such as the need to ensure and guarantee equity among the component units of the federation on matters of power sharing, revenue allocation, structure of government, and on ways of keeping the military out of governance.

Several candidates who spoke were skeptical about the probable attitude of the military administration to the final work of the conference. Some of these conferees attempted to secure a resolution to make it impossible for the Provisional Ruling Council to tinker with the conference decision. Their move was, however, suspended following counsel by others, who suggested that they had better done the task first before such motion. [end recording]

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